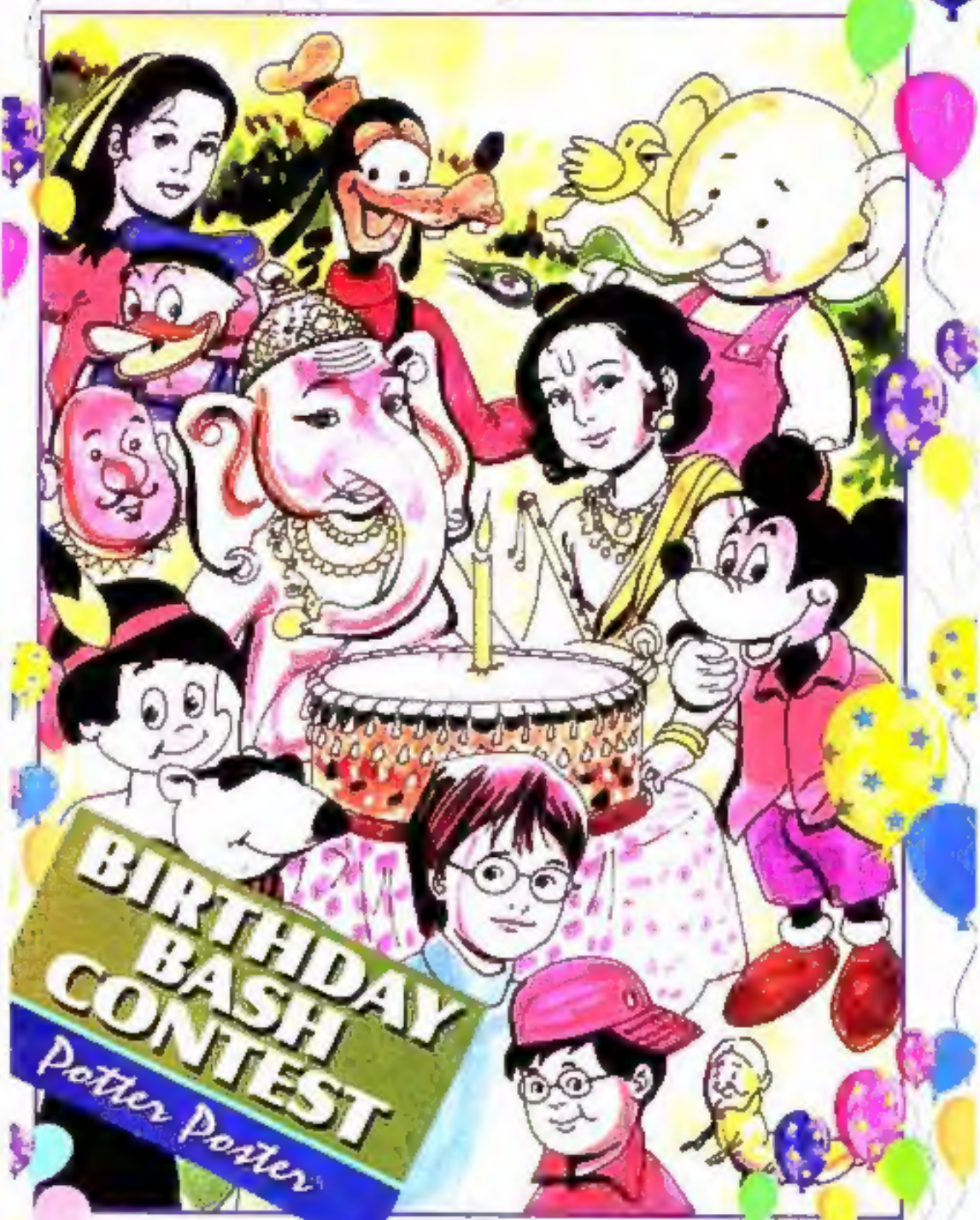
# GOKULAM

JULY 2005 Rs.8/- 80 Pages

FREE Magazine for Children



MILKA

# WONDER CAKE

அற்புதமான ஆறு சுவைகளில்

Of all created things the loveliest,
And most divine are children.
-William Canton

# GOKULAM

THE Magazine for Children

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THE Magazine for Children

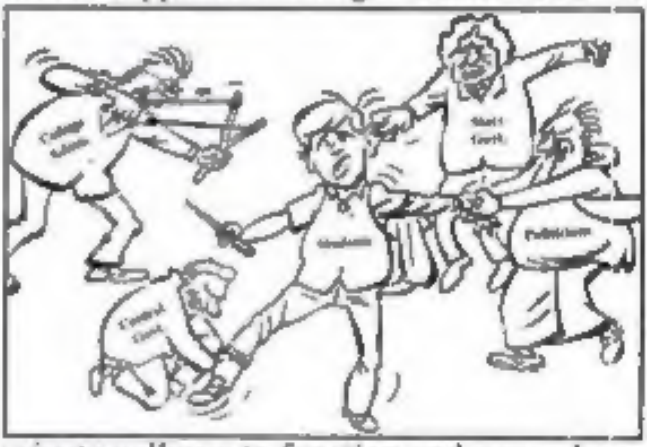
# STUDENTS IN A DILEMMA!

*Dear Reader,*

"Entrance tests abolished!"; "No more improvement exams!", scream headlines and students have to go to court protesting against this sudden development.

BJP comes to power and introduces changes in the text books to suit their own ideology. Later the Congress comes to power and tries to undo what the BJP has done. The youth wing of BJP is angry and goes on a rampage in 'Vigyan Bhavan'.

At one point of time there were not enough colleges and aspiring engineers and doctors were disappointed. The government allowed



private colleges to function and now education has become big business, with scant regard for quality education. Colleges spring up everywhere without proper educational facilities.

Where does all this leave the poor student? In a dilemma! How one wishes that we had a uniform education policy all over the country and that all our educational institutions were temples of knowledge respected all over the world!

**- Editor**

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**The Circulation Manager**
**GOKULAM (English), 47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road,**
**Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 032**

**Dear Sir,**

**I hereby introduce Gokulam to my friend _____ _____.I have enclosed Rs.96/- (by DD / MO / Cheque**) towards an annual subscription in his / her name. Kindly extend my subscription period by another three months as a gift to me from you.**

**Regards,**

**(Signature)**

* Offer valid upto September 30, 2005
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# NETBITS

NEW

## THE DUTCH AND DOUGHNUTS

Gokulam begins a new year with a new feature 'netbits'. We commence with a 'bit' on New Years!

Many cultures believe that anything in the shape of a ring would bring good luck on new year's day because it symbolises 'coming a full cycle.' The Dutch eat doughnuts on New Year's day for luck!

Cabbage leaves are considered a sign of prosperity since they remind one of the 'green back' or U.S. Treasury paper currency and cabbage is therefore a good luck vegetable! In the US, black eyed peas and hog-gowls or ham is consumed as they symbolise prosperity!

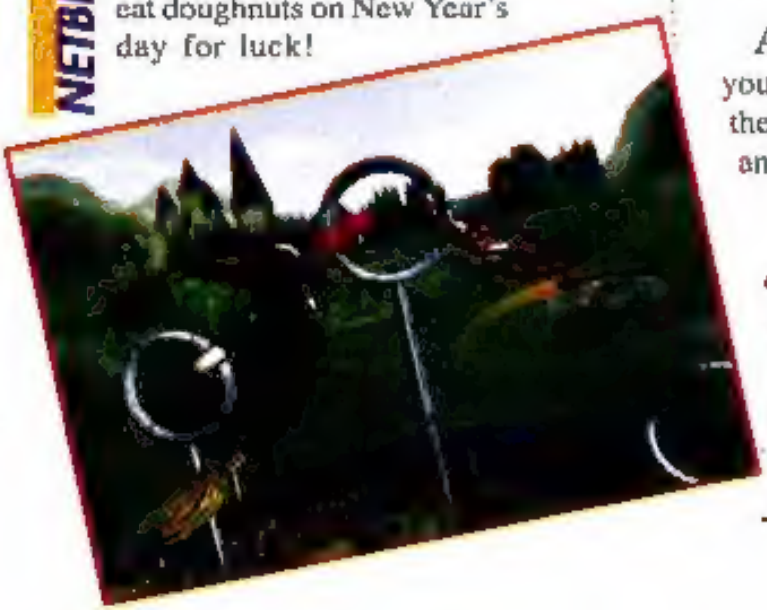
Source :
www.wilstar.com

**- Sneh Pradhan, Std.VIII, Kolkata.**

For all the Gokulam - Potter fans here is an interesting bit! Take 'Qu' from Quaffle, a 'D' from each of the two Bludgers and an 'itch' from Snitch. Put them together and you get 'Quidditch'!

Source : www.mugglenet.com

**- B.Varun, Std.IX, Bangalore.**



And finally to keep you in good humour until the next issue, we present an internet joke.

**P.T. Teacher :** Why did you kick the ball straight into the school computer?

**Pupil :** You told me to put it in the 'NET!

**- V. Anusha, Chennai**

# BIRTHDAY BASH CONTEST!

Participate in Gokulam's birthday bash. All you have to do is identify the characters on the cover. (They have all appeared in Gokulam)

Fill up the entry form and rush it along with your list to reach us on or before **10.07.2005.**

Lucky five all correct entries will get **Rs.100/-** each!

*Cover Illustration :* **Jeyaraj**

Name : (Mr/Ms) .....

Age : ..... Class .....

School : .....

Residential Address : .....

.....

.....Pin .....

Signature : .....

**The Editor, Gokulam, Kalki Buildings, 47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 032.**

# IS COMMERCE ONLY FOR DULLARDS?

**Dear Grandma,**

***He is my best friend; but I hate it when he utters bad words. This sometimes leads to a quarrel between us. Please help.***

**- S. Sriharikrishna, Chennai**

*Dear Srihari,*

*Whenever he uses foul words, tell him that you will pray for him and as a penance will not talk to him for a couple of days. Keep up your promise and he will gradually start feeling sorry for his behaviour.*

***I want to be a doctor, but my problem is that I spend too much time watching TV or listening to music. This greatly affects my studies. Is there a way out?***

**- Ambika Ghosh, Kolkata**

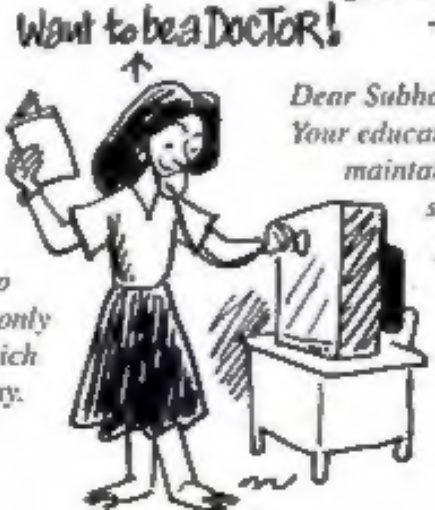
*Dear Ambika,*

*Ofcourse there is a way out! You can sell the TV or do away with the set top box! But other members of the family won't agree to these suggestions. So, you have to make up your mind to watch only one programme which you like best, per day.*

*As for music, if you reduce the volume to an extent where it is barely audible, it will soothen your nerves and actually help you to concentrate on your studies!*

***Since I am deeply involved in my studies, I feel I don't have time even for special occasions like a relation's marriage! How do I manage both?***

**- Subha Narayanan, Dombivli**




*Dear Subha,*

*Your education is important; but maintaining cordial relationship with friends and family members is equally important and is not a waste of time. If it is a local event, you*

*can politely inform them that you have to return soon to continue your studies. You need not overstay and your hosts will not take it amiss. But if you ignore them they will feel hurt. If the occasion is celebrated in another city and if you are unable to attend, spend some time on a nice letter which will make the recipient happy. A routine telegram will not do. A personal letter beautifully worded, and illustrated with lovely pictures of a bouquet or roses will do the trick. Moreover, you will not have any guilty feeling of having neglected your studies and undertaken a long trip.*

***I always feel hungry and I am unable to control the feeling. My mom scolds me for this. What am I to do?***

**- S. Varsha, Sion (E)**

*Dear Varsha,*

*If you are undernourished you will feel hungry. A balanced diet is necessary. Over eating at a young age, will enlarge the stomach and the child consumes more and more food to fill it up. You will have to find out what the reason is and take remedial measures. When you get pangs of hunger, drink a glass of water. Walk briskly for 30 to 40 minutes a day. Consume more vegetables and fruits and avoid fried fatty food and sweets. Stop eating when you are three fourths full. If after a week or ten days there is no improvement you will have to consult a doctor.*

# Is it for Dull Students?

***I have taken Commerce Group. Many people say that it is only for dull students. Is this true?***

**- K.S. Harini, Madurai**

*Dear Harini,*

*Don't listen to such people. What they are saying is absolute nonsense. One has to study a subject which interests him or her. After a few years you will be graduating in commerce (B.Com). Thereafter you can study C.A. (chartered accountancy) if you want to or seek a job where your education will be useful. You can also study to become a Company Secretary which is a very paying and a highly respected position.*

**Love,**

**Grandmaworm**

PRIZE WINNING STORY

# FIERO, THE HERO

Dunkens was the name of a village which had contented and peace loving people. And in that village lived 'Fiero' - an intelligent dog praised for his powerful sensing ability.

Dunkens was endowed with great natural beauty of lakes, forests etc on the one hand, and volcanic mountains on the other.

One morning, Fiero sensed that things were not normal. He could see birds screeching wildly. He felt that a natural calamity was in the offing. But what could it be? He was perplexed. Suddenly a thought struck him and he rushed towards the mountains. He put his ears down to the ground and sensed the shifting of tectonic plates. He deduced that something dreadful was going to occur. What could it be?

Fiero climbed to the mountain top and barked wildly to alert the villagers. Unable to understand him, they continued their work. Fiero decided that he, Fiero, would have to save them. He made up his mind

He saw a child, playing on the

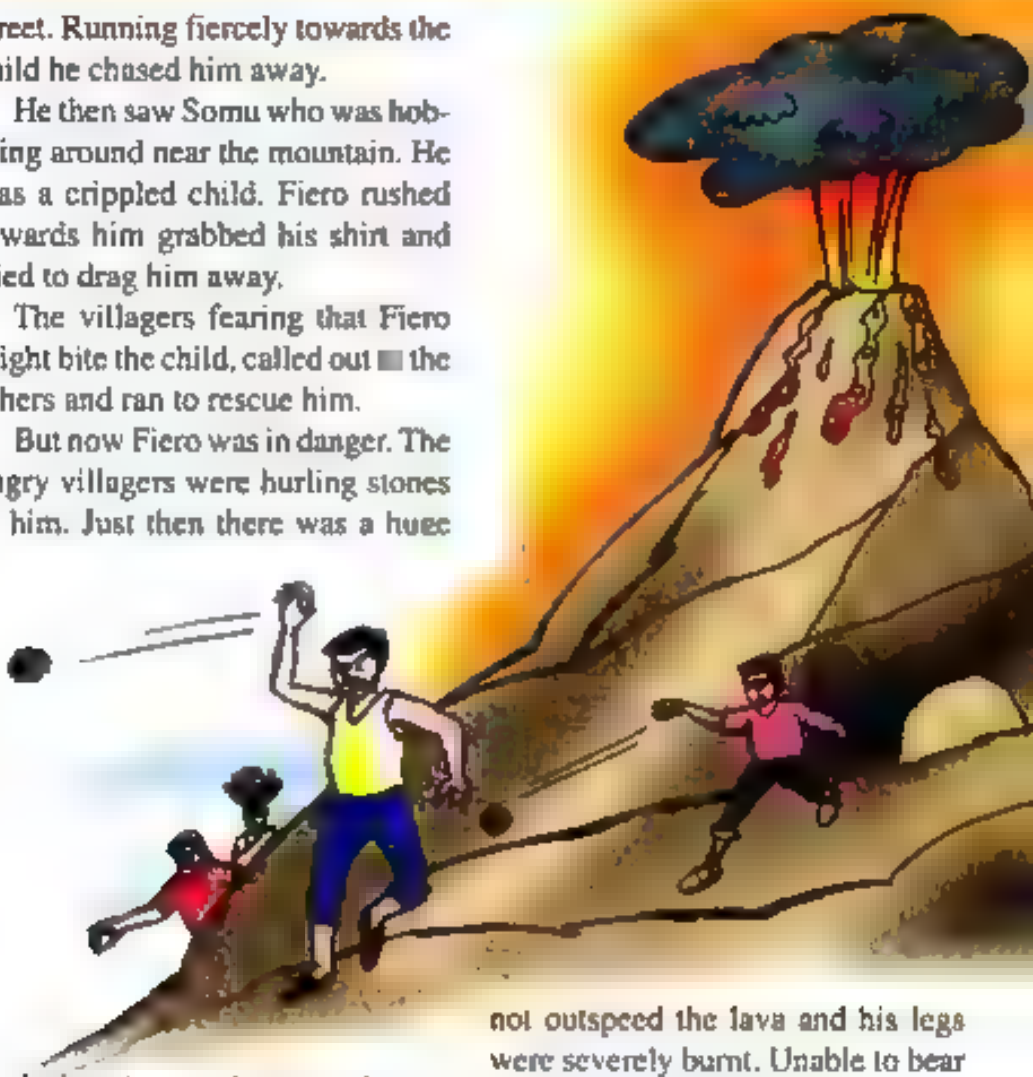
# A Really 'Short' Story Contest -11

street. Running fiercely towards the child he chased him away.

He then saw Somu who was hobbling around near the mountain. He was a crippled child. Fiero rushed towards him grabbed his shirt and tried to drag him away.

The villagers fearing that Fiero might bite the child, called out the others and ran to rescue him.

But now Fiero was in danger. The angry villagers were hurling stones at him. Just then there was a huge explosion. At once they turned to see the lava rushing down. As they were running they realised that they were on safe land. Fiero was actually their saviour.



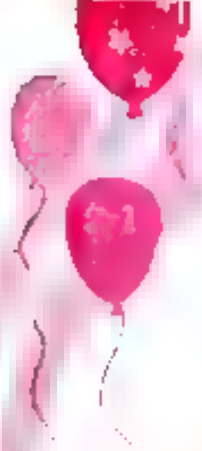
Molten lava was heading towards Somu. Fiero ran as fast as he could dragging Somu along with him. By then the villagers had caught up with Somu. They carried him away to safety. But alas, Fiero could not outspeed the lava and his legs were severely burnt. Unable to bear the pain, poor Fiero died.

But for the people of Dunkens, Fiero never died. He still lives in the heart of every villager. As for Somu, he will never forget the great hero who died to save him.

Do you know what the villagers engraved on his grave?

**Bravo, Fiero The Hero!**

**- Shweta Rao, Std.X,**
**MGMSS School, Bhilai**



**1.** Which Mauryan emperor, conquered Kalinga (Orissa) in the third century BC?

*a) Sasanka b) Ashoka c) Harsha*

**2.** After King Sasanka's death who conquered Orissa?

*a) Harsha b) Ashoka c) Alivardi Khan*

**3.** In which city is the Lingraj temple located?

*a) Bhubaneshwar b) Puri c) Cuttack*

QUIZ

**4.** Who constructed the temple of Lord Jagannath?

*a) Sasanka b) Chodagangadeva c) Alivardi Khan*

**5.** Who constructed the Sun Temple of Konark?

*a) Narasimhadeva-I b) Harsha c) Ashoka*

**6.** Hirakud Dam is constructed on which river?

*a) Brahmani b) Baitarani c) Mahanadi*

**7.** Bhubaneshwar is also known by which name?

*a) 'City of Joy' b) 'City of dreams' c) The Temple city of India*

**8.** What is the dance form of Orissa known as,

*a) Kathakali b) Odissi c) Kathak*

**9.** Which is the largest brackish water inland lake in Asia?

*a) Dal lake b) Vembanad lake c) Chilka lake*

**10.** The largest Lion Safari of India, and the only white Tiger Safari in the world, are located on the outskirts of which city of Orissa?

*a) Konark b) Baleshwar c) Bhubaneshwar*

**- Rupai, Std.VIII, K.V. Kharagpur**

---

Answers :
1. b, 2. a, 3.a, 4.b, 5.a, 6.c, 7.c, 8. b, 9. c, 10. c

Rita. Kirti Samantray, Bhubaneswar

Patta Chitra

# EXQUISITE ARTS!

Odissi dance is based on Nritta (non-representational dance) in which ornamental patterns are created using body movements and Abhinaya or stylised mime with gestures and facial expressions to interpret a story or theme.

The lyrics consist of hymns in praise of Ganesha and other gods, verses from Jayadeva's Gita Govinda and Oriya poetry. Although this dance form originated in temples, over the years it has become secular. The movements of the dancer are geometrically precise yet relaxed. The dance is very suggestive, delicate, stylised, passionate and sensuous, all at the same time and is thus a visual treat! The postures are vividly carved in the temples of Bhubaneswar. Even today craftsmen of Orissa, carve wonderful sculptures in stone!

Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra is regarded as the greatest of Odissi Gurus. He trained under Guru Mohan Chandradevgoswami of Puri. He was trained in Raas Nritya which is a group dance form with bits of drama thrown in. Lord Krishna's life from his birth to the killing of Kamsa is described in this dance. Infact, it is a form of worshipping Lord Krishna through song and dance!

Patta Chitra is a distinctive style of folk painting of Orissa. 'Patta' in Sanskrit is canvas and 'chitra' is picture. It is a devotional art which centres around the worship of Lord Jagannath and the paintings are on a special cotton cloth canvas. Rich colours, motifs and designs depicting legends from the epics are characteristic of this painting.

**- J. Jane Eyre, Std.X, Cuddalore**
**- Sania Shetty, Std.VII, Bangalore**

# TIME FOR

**CRICKET** West Indies played Pakistan, at home, recently. Brian Lara's brilliant knock of 153 in the Jamaica Test took his tally of centuries to 30 thus edging past the great Bradman's 29! The 2 test series, though, was a draw 1 - 1.

Back home the appointment of India's new coach has hogged the headlines for quite some time now. Why? Why is everyone so obsessed with the new coach. Does that mean Rahul Dravid's cover drive is going to be more fluent, or Irfan Pathan is going to swing the ball a few more inches? The fact is, the role of the coach in cricket is a lot more limited than say, in soccer, where the manager/coach makes all the decisions.

**H**aving said that, has India made the right choice in picking Greg Chappel ahead of Tom Moody? The only real way we have of evaluating Chappel is through his commentary – which is both clear as well as incisive. He certainly seems well qualified. But considering that India is in a very precarious position right now, wouldn't we be better off with a younger coach, someone who'll understand the

individual players rather than the game? I'm not sure, but somehow, I get the feeling that the need of the hour for India is to re-furnish. Out with the old, in with the new – Yuvraj, Kaif, Dinesh Karthik, Dhoni, Chopra, Gambhir – these are just some of the players whose faces we should be seeing a lot more on the international circuit. Will Chappel be able to pull it off, or are our old warhorses going to plod wearily along, as we slip further and further down in the Test rankings?

# CHANGE!

## TENNIS

French Open... Isn't it great to watch two players pushing the limits of endurance, running from one end of the court to the other, skidding as they just about scoop the ball back into the other court? Only on clay can we watch this sort of thing, and the French Open is the ultimate clay court tournament.

It's a well known fact that the Spanish consider Roland Garros their home away from home, and this time was no different as Spaniard Rafael Nadal lifted the championship. What was different was that Nadal just turned nineteen, beat Roger Federer in the semis (he's already beaten him once this year) – and this is the first time he's playing this tournament!

As all the critics and experts are saying, Nadal looks like the next big thing. And with Wimbledon around the corner, maybe he'll take that chance to prove that he's up there with the best on any surface. He sure looks talented enough to do just that!

# LETTER BOX

## KUDOS AND GREETINGS!

I enjoyed the June issue of Gokulam, especially the Temple Treasures, Hyderabad Specials and Child Achiever columns. The personality column (Sarojini Naidu) and the cover story on Harry Potter were informative.

**- Mahalakshmi, Mumbai**

I am an ardent admirer of Gokulam. Apart from featuring Indian cities, could you publish facts about foreign cities too? It would enlighten the readers about the culture of different countries.

**- R. Ishwarya, Std.VII, Chennai**

The cover story on Harry Potter was excellent. So were the stories and picture stories. The 'Pyramid Game' was not only entertaining, it was educative too. I join others in requesting you to publish a Harry Potter poster in the next issue.

**- Yogika Garg, Std.VIII, Hyderabad**

Please restart Undir stories and Jayabalan stories. Can you make Gokulam a fortnightly? We would like to read about authors like Agatha Christie, Carolyn Keene and Jeffrey Archer. Hollywood stars too can be featured occasionally.

**- Yeshaswini Halthore, II PUC, Bangalore**

Happy Birthday, Gokulam! Hope you are going to introduce many new features like you did last July. Please do not stop Pottermania. My friends and I love it!

**- Mary Jones, Std.IX, Panaji, Goa**

*We thank all the readers who have sent birthday greetings to Gokulam.*

***- Editor***

# ADVANI'S SOMERSAULT!

Advani hit the headlines of all the newspapers all over India, continuously for a week. If this is what he wanted, he has succeeded. But no one even in his own party is prepared to accept Jinnah as a secularist. Advani seems to have based his remark on a book written by an Australian. But, everybody in this country knows that Jinnah indulged in politics of religion and was responsible for splitting this country. Vociferous protests followed Advani's eulogy of Jinnah and he resigned as President of BJP. Later he withdrew his resignation at the instance of the party high command which again is being ridiculed by the opposition as a drama.

★★★

Manmohan Singh made history as the first Prime Minister to visit Siachen. He interacted with our jawans and expressed the gratitude of the nation. He further said that though the peace process will continue, there was no question of redrawing the borders. Meanwhile another car bomb blast in Pulwama, Kashmir, left fifteen killed and sixty injured. Truly the situation in Kashmir is too tragic for words.

★★★

Former cricket captain Pataudi has been accused of hunting and killing an endangered species, a black buck. He has sought anticipatory bail.

★★★

Ties between India and Russia have always been good. It's getting better and better now. Mr.Putin visited India recently and our Prime Minister

- Jinnah

- Advani

and President have paid return visits. Now it is the turn of the Congress president Sonia Gandhi and she is getting a warm welcome in Moscow.

★★★

Several lakhs of bogus names are found in the voters list of Tamilnadu. The ruling AIDMK is being accused of including these bogus voters in the list with the connivance of government officials. The election commission is taking a very serious view of the matter and has threatened action against erring officials.

- Pataudi

Story : SNEHA

# BEAUTY

Pictures : SEKAR

Sun

Snail

Caterpillar

Earthworm

Cock

The rose. The and stretched themselves and set off to work. "Just a moment, I'll come along too", said the as it hurried along towards them. The shook off the dust on its back just as the announced, "Have you heard about the Beauty contest?" "Beauty and you? I don't see why you should bother!" giggled the . The was annoyed. "We are friends. I'd like to know how you assess beauty. A good heart is more important." "O , you carry a ghastly shell on your back. The looks weird with a thousand legs. Look at me! With my smooth and shiny skin, I am a beauty" boasted the . Just then a perched near them. At once the retreated into its shell. The coiled itself into a minute speck. The pecked at the 'pretty' and gobbled it for breakfast!

## MANDA PITHA

***Ingredients :***

Semolina (Rava/Sooji) - 1 cup
Water - 2 cups
Sugar - 1½ cups
Oil / Ghee - For deep frying
Salt - a pinch
Coconut (grated) - 1 cup
Cardamom (powdered) - 2 tbsp

***Method :*** Add 1 cup sugar, 1 tsp ghee and salt to the water. Heat the mixture. Just before it boils, slowly add the rava, and cook. Cover the pan and reduce the flame to 'sim' and cook for five minutes. Switch off the stove. Allow to cool for a while and then make balls of the mixture.

***For stuffing :***

Heat the coconut in a pan and add ½ cup of sugar. Stir well. Remove from stove. Add cardamom. Stuff each rava ball with some coconut mixture. Heat oil / ghee in a frying pan and deep fry the stuffed rava balls until brown. Serve hot.

# TASTY TREAT!

## DALMA

**Ingredients :**

Mungdal - 250 gm, Pumpkin - 50 gm, Raw Papaya - 50 gm, Beans - 3 to 4, Potato - 2, Tomato, Carrot, Raw Banana - 1 each, Chilly powder - ½ tsp. Sugar - a pinch, Turmeric powder - 1 tsp, Ghee - 2 tsp, Bay leaves, red chilly - 2 each, Jeera Powder - 2 tsp, Coriander leaves, Grated Coconut for garnishing, Salt - to taste

**Method :**

Cut all the vegetables (except tomato) into cubes. Cook mugdal in pressure cooker. When the dal is half cooked, add turmeric powder, salt, sugar and chilli powder. Also cook vegetables in the cooker. Heat ghee in a pan. Add jeera powder, bay leaves, red chilly and fry. Add to the dal and vegetables. Add grated tomato. Garnish with coriander leaves and grated coconut.

**- Smruti Sudha Behera, Std.VIII, Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Rourkela.**

● **K. Lilly Pushpam, Bangalore**

***? What is chewing gum made of? Is chewing gum harmful if it is swallowed by mistake?***

! Chewing gums are not meant to be swallowed. They contain five basic ingredients namely, sugar, corn syrup, softeners, flavors and gum base. Sugar sweetens the gum. Corn syrup keeps the gum fresh and flexible. Softeners keep the gum soft. Flavours make the gum tasty. Gum base makes the gum chewy. Except the gum, all others dissolve in our mouth when we chew. The gum, which is made of wax, resin or latex, is sticky in nature and does not dissolve. However, it does not stick to the walls of our stomach or intestines. It just goes through our digestive tract and is excreted in a couple of days. So when a piece of chewing gum is swallowed by mistake there is no cause for alarm.

● **M. Martina, Hubli**

***? I have long hair but it is very brown and the ends are split. Can you suggest a remedy?***

! Any kind of recurrent trauma to the ends of hair may cause split hairs. For example, excessive combing, excessive use of shampoo or soap and repeated bleaching of hair may cause this problem. Avoid them. Moreover, protein, iron, biotin and zinc are essential nutrients that promote the normal growth of hair. Milk, curd, egg, meat, beans, cauliflower, dates, beetroot, cashewnut and fish are rich in these nutrients. Regular intake of these items will improve the condition of your hair.

● **Ramya Krishnan, Ooty.**

***? What is anaesthesia? How does it work during surgery?***

! The absence of normal sensation or pain in the body is called anaesthesia and drugs called aneasthetic agents are administered to induce this condition. There are different kinds of anaesthesia, namely topical

# ANAESTHESIA!

anaesthesia, local anaesthesia, regional anaesthesia and general anaesthesia. In topical anaesthesia, the anaesthetic agent, which is in the form of an ointment, solution, gel or spray, is applied to the surface of the body to make the area numb. This is used when a child's earlobes are pierced. For local anaesthesia, the anaesthetic agent is administered in the form of injection to eliminate the pain sensation in a small area of the body to perform minor surgical procedures ( e.g. tooth extraction ). In regional anaesthesia, the anaesthetic agent is injected to anaesthetise a certain region of the body. Here, the anaesthetic agent stops the conduction of the nerve messages like pain, sensation etc., to the brain making the area numb and painless. Spinal surgeries are performed with this kind of anaesthesia. On the other hand, general anaesthesia renders the entire body unconscious. Here the anaesthetic agent is given by inhalation and an anaesthetist controls the patient's respiration externally. Major surgeries like heart surgeries are performed with the help of general anaesthesia. The anaesthetic drug here acts on the brain cells and causes not only loss of sensation and movements of our body but also sedation. If the drug is withdrawn, our body recovers gradually as the effect wears off.

● **M. Arulraj, Chennai-17**

***? What is an artificial tooth made of?***

! An artificial tooth is made of acrylic resin or porcelain. Polymethyl methacrylate is the basic ingredient in acrylic resin. It is most commonly used nowadays. In a complete denture, porcelain or a metal like gold may be used.

# PEARLS OF WISDOM!

STORY

Long ago, there lived a king called Marthanda, who ruled over the kingdom of Indrapuri. He was a very wise ruler. One day, a Brahmin came to his court and blessed the king. The king told the Brahmin to ask him for anything he wanted.

The Brahmin replied, "Your Majesty, I have to get my daughter married. But I don't have any wealth. My words are my only wealth. I shall give you three valuable pearls of wisdom. For each sentence pay me one thousand gold coins."

The king was impressed by the Brahmin. He listened to the valuable words and paid him three thousand gold coins. The king then got the three sayings of the Brahmin engraved on a silver plaque and hung it up in the royal bed-chamber.

That night the king looked at the words before retiring for the night. The first pearl of wisdom was "The king should be alert at all times."

The king instead of going to bed, disguised himself and went into the town incognito. On the way he saw an old woman crying under the street lights. He asked her why she was crying.

"Oh my lord! In seven days time, the king of this land, Marthanda will be bitten by a snake. I am crying because we will not get such a good king ever again" she replied.

The king was surprised to hear this but he did not reveal his identity. Consoling her as best as he could he returned to the palace.

The next morning as soon as the king woke up, the words on

the plaque, caught his eye. "A king should always respect his enemies, and honour them", was the second saying. The king thought that since the snake was his enemy now, it should be treated like a royal guest. So he ordered that his bed-chamber be sprayed with perfume and plenty of fresh fruits, milk and honey should be kept in golden bowls. The passages leading to the bed chamber were strewn with flowers. The king slept peacefully that night.

On the seventh night, the snake came into the bed-chamber of the king. Seeing the flowers and fruits in the

room it was very happy. It tasted some honey.

A man who treats his enemies so well does not deserve to die, thought the snake and slid away quietly without harming the king.

The minister of Indrapuri was a wicked man. He was always plotting to get rid of the king and become the ruler himself. One day, the king fell ill. Siezing this opportunity, the minister coaxed the doctor to mix a little poison to the medicine the king was supposed to take.

The minister promised to reward the doctor handsomely after he became the king. The doctor agreed to the proposal. The king sat up to drink his medicine. He took the glass in his hand and then his eyes fell on the engraved words of the Brahmin.

"Whatever you do, always think before you do it" was the last sentence of the wise Brahmin. The king started thinking about those words. The doctor who had been watching the king waited anxiously. The king seemed to be hesitating about something. Fearing that he had somehow found out about the poison, the doctor fell at the king's feet and begged his pardon. Poisoning the king was not his idea but the minister's, he confessed.

The king questioned him and found out all about the minister's plot. He pardoned the doctor and banished the minister. Later on, after he had recovered, King Marthanda sent word for the wise Brahmin and made him his minister.

**- R. Saradha, Chennai**

# FRIENDS INDEED!

*Name :* **Vignesh Ganesh**
*Age :* 12
*Address :* 17, Gangeshwardham, Near Devi Chowk, Shastri Nagar, Dombivili West, Dist. Thane.
*Hobbies :* Surfing the net, playing cricket, Swimming, singing, cycling, reading books.

*Name :* **D.Aswini**
*Age :* 13
*Address :* C18, TNPL Colony, Kagithapuram, Karur, Tamilnadu
*Hobbies :* Painting, reading Gokulam, singing, listening to music, playing games.

*Name :* **S. Varshini**
*Age :* 8
*Address :* 18, South Street - 2, Avarampalayam, Ganapathy Post, Coimbatore - 641 006.
*Hobbies :* Reading Gokulam, singing, dancing, drawing, watching TV and making friends.

*Name :* **S. Imran Basha**
*Age :* 14
*Address :* 1305/9, Railway Quarters, Chilakalaguda, Secunderabad - 500 003.
*Hobbies :* Reading stories and comics, playing football, cycling, drawing

*Name :* **M. Satish Babu**
*Age :* 16
*Address :* Door No.58/15/59, Shanti Nagar, NAD Kotha Road, Vishakapatnam - 9.
*Hobbies :* Playing cricket, watching T.V., listening to music, cracking jokes.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**Dear Readers,**

You are most welcome to send in your contributions to **Gokulam** either by post or by e-mail.

Remember every contribution sent by you should give details of your - **Name, Age, Class, Name and address of school, Residential address and a declaration stating that the contribution is your original creation (if not, the source must be mentioned).**

However, we cannot guarantee that your contribution will be published. It is also not possible for us to tell you when it will be published. But, if you require your contribution to be sent back to you on rejection, then you must enclose a self addressed, stamped envelope.

- **Editor**

## PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE

You will receive a **participation certificate** from us if your contribution is published. At the end of the one year period ending June 2006, the person with most number of participation certificates will receive a special prize.

*Name :* **Shwetha S. Choudhary**
*Age :* 12
*Address :* No.73, 6th Cross Widia Layout, Vijaynagar, Bangalore - 560 040.
*Hobbies :* Reading story books, collecting Harry Potter Pictures, watching 3D movies, drawing and reading Gokulam.

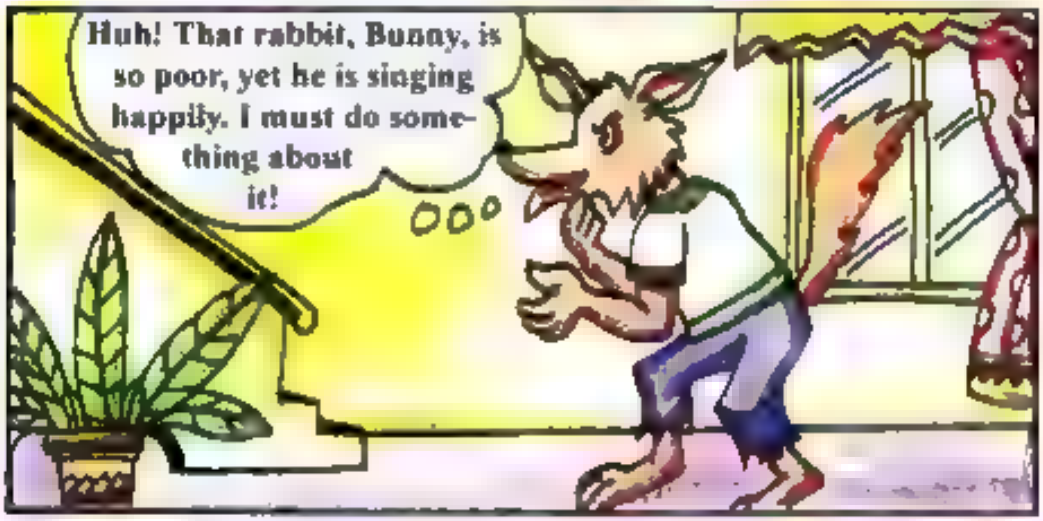
*Name :* **G. Harini**
*Age :* 11
*Address :* 68/160 Big Street, Triplicane, Chennai - 5.
*Hobbies :* Reading Gokulam, writing stories and poems, playing games.

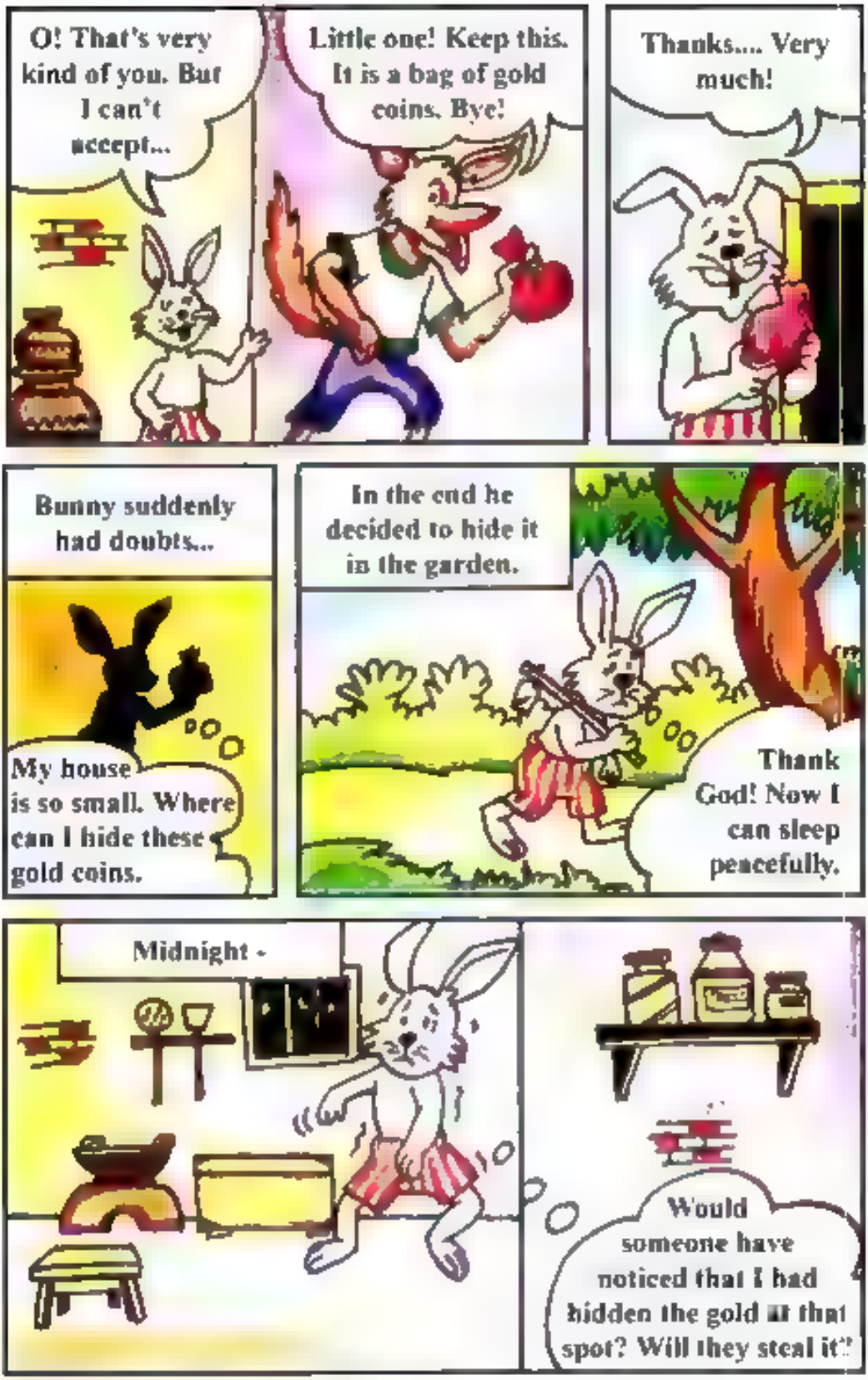
*Name :* **O. Trilok Kaushik**
*Age :* 12
*Address :* E24, Kaiga Township, U.K. District, Karnataka - 581 400.
*Hobbies :* Reading Gokulam and novels, playing computer games, listening to music, gardening.

*Name :* **Pritishree Sharma**
*Age :* 13
*Address :* Sarbodaya Nagar, Gopabandhu Lane, Puri - 752 002.
*Hobbies :* Reading story books, playing badminton, dancing and singing.

# PEACE OF MIND!

*Story, Pictures :*
**RAMKI**




O! That's very kind of you. But I can't accept...
Little one! Keep this. It is a bag of gold coins. Bye!
Thanks.... Very much!
Bunny suddenly had doubts...
My house is so small. Where can I hide these gold coins.
In the end he decided to hide it in the garden.
Thank God! Now I can sleep peacefully.
Midnight -
Would someone have noticed that I had hidden the gold at that spot? Will they steal it?

He dug out the bag of gold and placed it under his pillow.
Will someone steal it if I drop off to sleep?
In Fox's house -
Usually Bunny's house would be filled with happy sounds. Today's hushed silence is what I expected.
Next morning -
Sorry, don't mistake me, but I'd like to return your gift.
What...?
My peace of mind is lost. I'll die of fear. I don't want your gold. Thanks and bye.
Next day -
Tra... La... La...
That's Bunny. Not only is he a happy chap, he is clever too!

NEW

# FACTORY FARMING!

**Do you think the title makes no sense? Wait till you finish reading this article!**

Japan, as you know is a small nation, but the Japanese are great innovators! They don't have much of farming land and they don't want to disturb the ecology by converting the forests or marshy terrains into land fit for cultivation. So what do they do? They grow vegetables in the sprawling basements of sky scrappers! Or, they build factories for this purpose!

How can vegetables grow indoors? Let's visit a farming factory. Huge panels are stacked in rows at a sloping angle. There are tiny holes through which the roots grow on the underside. These roots are sprayed with nutritional liquid, and the solution which drains out is recycled and sprayed again at regular intervals. The roots absorb the nutrition. But plants also need sunlight.

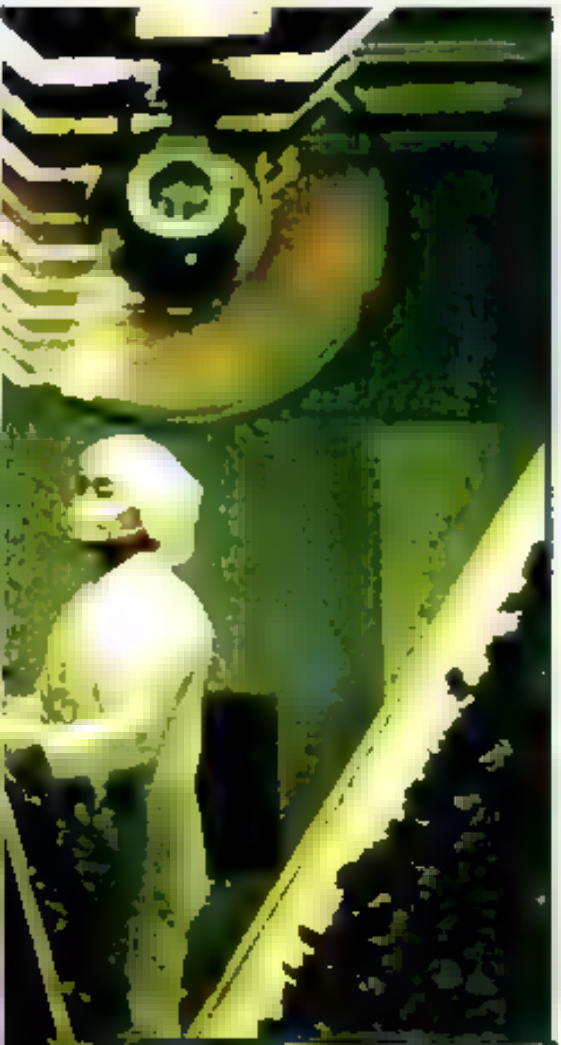
Artificial suns-high pressure sodium lamps - do the trick. Soon the panels are lush with green vegetable bearing plants. Carbon dioxide required by the plants is also supplied through tubes. All these factors - sunlight, temperature, nutrient liquid, carbondiox de etc. - are control ed with the help of computers.

The big advantage in this type of farm ng is that no pesticides are used. Pest attack is practically impossible indoors. Even the workers wear disinfected clothes and

masks and look like surgeons in an operation theatre.

In the absence of pesticides the consumer is assured of wholesome nontoxic vegetables which they can eat raw even without washing. Ofcourse one has to pay a little more for these vegetables grown with scientific precision but people don't seem to mind. Perhaps they think of the savings accrued in not having to visit a doctor for treatment of stomach ailments!

Source : **Asia Pacific**



## CALLING FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

***Hey kids!***

Guess what? Your favourite magazine has started a column for those of you whose hobby is 'surfing the net'! **'NETBITS'** is exclusively your column. Next time you find something interesting on the net, share it with us.

That's not all. You (or your parents) may write for **'SALIENT SAINTS'** too!

You might have had a unique experience with your teacher who inspired you or ignited a spark in you. Tell us about him/her. The best ones will be featured in **'LOVEABLE TEACHERS'.**

*Send photos too, if possible.*

***- Editor***

EXPERIENCE

## DEATH TRAP!

Mumbai experiences heavy rains during the monsoons. A few years back, one day my father and I were walking down a flooded road.

My father was just a step ahead of me.

Suddenly, I found myself sinking into a manhole. I hadn't seen it because of the rain water. I screamed. I was neck deep in the manhole when a hand grabbed me and pulled me out.

My friend had noticed my sudden disappearance and rushed to save my life. My father had not noticed and was sorry for his carelessness. He complained to the authorities and the manhole cover was replaced the very next day.

I call upon all Gokulam readers to look out for these death traps particularly before the onset of monsoons!

**- Subha Narayanan, Std.XI, Dombivili (E)**

## MATHS WIZARD!

I was very proud of my maths skills until I was in Std.VII. I was doing my quarterly exams and the Maths paper seemed to be very easy. I was confident of securing cent percent marks!

I was about to

hand over the answer paper when the invigilator who was also our games teacher said that I could revise since there was still time.

"Not necessary", I answered arrogantly. 'After all, what would a games teacher know about Maths?' I thought to myself.

When the answer sheets were given back, I got the shock of my life. One sum had gone wrong. I realised that I had misjudged the

games teacher. I also learnt a lesson that over confidence is not good and all humans

are fallible!

**- Divya A. Nayak, Std.IX, Milagres English Medium High School, Kallianpur, Karnataka.**

# FOLLY!

## TEACHER'S JUDGEMENT!

It was the day of our maths exam. Our class teacher, Savitha Ma'am was the invigilator. While I walked down to her table to take another answer sheet Ranjan the boy sitting in front of me, who had brought a 'bit', placed it on my desk. In my hurry to finish the paper, I didn't notice it.

I submitted my paper and went out. In the meantime, Savitha Ma'am had spotted the 'bit' on my desk.

"Do you think Sunder did this?" she asked the boys.

Later, when Ranjan told me that Savitha Ma'am had confiscated the bit and I would be in trouble, I rushed to her house.

When I told her what had happened, she assured me that she had known all along that I was not the culprit. "Don't worry" she added.

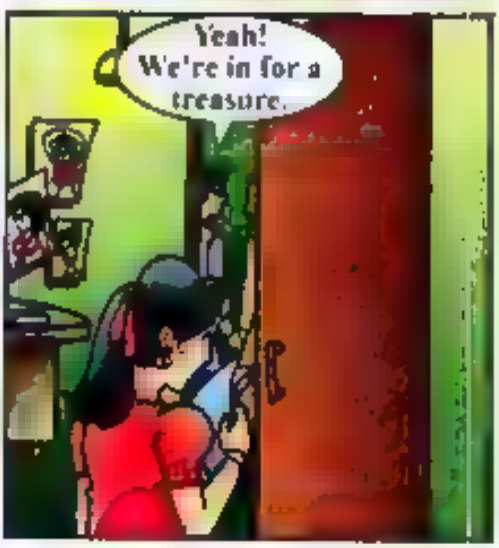
Even today when someone speaks ill of her, I narrate this incident and convince them of her kindness.

**- V. Sunderrajan, Std.IX, I.B. Patel English School, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat**

# MOM, DEAR MOM

Story: Vanthanama [illegible] Mahesh

9



Akhila and her mother's wealth are in my custody!
How is Dandapani involved?
He's the one who led us to this treasure.
Boss! I'll open the door!
Thank God! I escaped!
Oh no! Indira is coming!

Akhila chose another exit and confronted Laxman's secretary.
Did you meet Laxman?
What's in your hand?
Just a sheet of Laxman's letter head.
Akhila took the letter she wrote in Laxman's letter head to the dog house.
My guardian has written to you...
Fine. I'll let off your dog.
Laddu scampered off as soon as he was set free.
Laddu, come here...
Laddu wouldn't come!

From the time Laddu had eaten the bun and smelt Vasantha's hanky, something flashed in its mind!

That's Akhila's dog, isn't it? Let's follow it.

Why is it going towards the dilapidated house?

Let's go in...

Oh dear! Who's this?

Vasantha!

At Akhila's and Vasantha's behest, Dandapani, Laxman and Indira were arrested. Akhila hugged her mom.

Concluded

NEW

# JAYA JAYA JAYADEVA!

Though regarded as one of the gems of king Lukshmana Sena's court (12th century, Navadeepa, Bengal), Jayadeva lived a chosen life of poverty and meditation.

He is known the world over as the illustrious author of the 'Gita Govinda', a lyrical and beautiful work in high flown sanskrit. It consists of twenty four songs, each with eight charanas, called an ashtapadi and set to a specific raga and tala.

Many wonder as to why Jayadeva, such an ardent Krishna devotee left Him out from the Dasavatara series and included Lord Buddha instead! Infact for Jayadeva, it is Krishna who as Para Brahmam, takes all the ten incarnations himself to redeem the earth from evil.

Sir Arnold's translation of Gita Govinda is known as the "Indian song of songs." The ashtapadis are an all time favourite of musicians and dancers, in both Carnatic and Hindustani styles.

Every year, the annual festival in Jayadeva's memory is held at his birthplace, Kendula. The ashtapadi has the honour of being sung every evening at the Puri Jagannatha temple after the puja.

Some interesting stories are told about Jayadeva's life. Devasarma and Vimalamba, a childless Brahmin couple were finally blessed with a daughter named Padmavathi. When they offered the girl to the Lord, He directed them to give her in marriage to Jayadeva, who he said was a part of himself. Though Jayadeva refused initially, being poor, they were soon married in the temple. Both were staunch devotees of Krishna.

Once Jayadeva wrote in the 19th ashtapadi that Radha's feet should be placed on Krishna's head and then erased the lines from the manuscript and

went for an oil bath. In his absence Lord Krishna, came in the guise of Jayadeva, wrote the same lines again handed it to Padmavathi and disappeared. On his return, Jayadeva had a twofold realisation - one that Lord Krishna actually approved of his work, written in complete devotion and two, that his wife Padmavathi had the greater fortune of having the Lord's darshan which he had not got till then. Therefore this 19th ashtapadi is called 'Darsana ashtapadi'.

Jayadeva's popularity grew and made the local king jealous. He composed a parallel work. Both works were placed at the Jagannatha Puri altar on an equal footing. Miraculously, Jayadeva's work appeared on the deity's hand while that of the king fell to the floor. This transformed the king who became a great admirer of Jayadeva. The queen, however, jealous of Padmavathi's popularity played a dirty trick on her while the king and Jayadeva were away hunting. The queen fooled Padmavathi into believing that her husband had passed away. Hearing this, Padmavathi swooned to her death. The king was furious at this and vowed to kill his wife. Jayadeva calmly sang his 19th ashtapadi. Padmavathi sprang back to life. Hence this hymn is also called 'Sanjivini ashtapadi' or the life - giver.

Jayadeva's ashtapadi evokes a sublime image of Krishna and His divine play and is a melodic and spiritual legacy.

**- Arvind Vasudevan, Std.VIII,**
**P.S.B.B.S.S.S., Chennai**

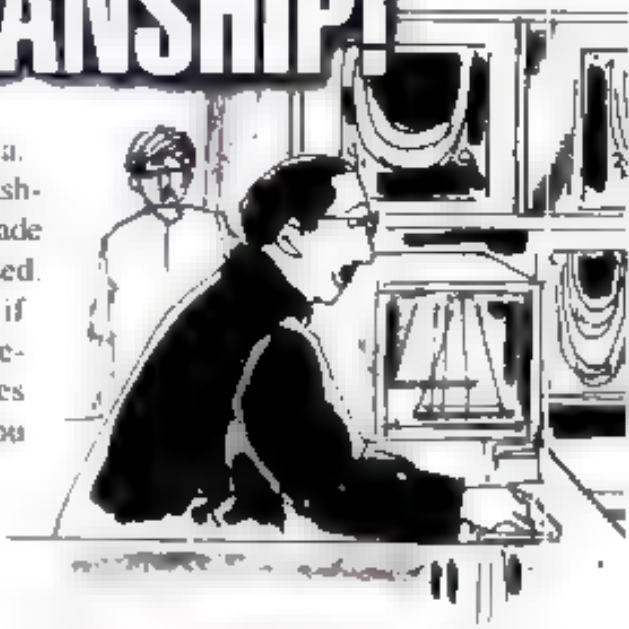
STORY

# TRICKY SALESMANSHIP!

Hoysala, a Bangalore Jeweller had bought a costly golden watch from a person in Delhi in the hope of selling it at a huge profit. Bijala, his brother, arrived in Bangalore that day to stay with Hoysala.

"Who will buy this old fashioned gold watch? You've made a bad investment" he chastised.

"One can sell anything if one knows how to do it", replied Hoysala, "Here comes the rich moneylender. If you will help me, I'll sell this to him". So saying, Hoysala whispered the plan to Bijala.



Bijala walked out of the shop just as the moneylender entered.

"Sir, please come in. I have a wonderful piece to show you" welcomed Hoysala as he produced the watch with a flourish.

The moneylender asked him the price and on hearing it said, "Too expensive, I don't want it."

Hoysala was aware that the moneylender did not command a lot of respect in the area. He always yearned for respectability. Hoysala cajoled him, "You need not buy it, sir. Just try it on for size while you go on your rounds. You can return it this evening."

The moneylender was thrilled with the prospect of wearing an expensive watch for a day.

As he walked out of the shop, a man coming from the opposite direction bumped into him.

"Sorry, sir. My mistake, sir. Please forgive me" he mumbled with folded hands, bowing his head.

The moneylender was surprised at the humility of the stranger. "I don't think I know you", he said, looking him up and down.

"Honourable sir, you might not know who I am, but you must be the Chief Minister's P.A." said the stranger.

"Why? What made you think so?" asked the stunned moneylender.

"The watch, ofcourse! Obviously only the C.M.'s P.A. can possess such a magnificent gold watch!"

The moneylender was flattered. He rushed back to Hoysala and made out a cheque for the watch! 'No matter how much it costs, I must buy the watch' he thought to himself.

After the moneylender had left, Hoysala thanked Bijala for playing his part to perfection.

"The moneylender was taken in by your words, Bijala", he said.

"Hoysala! You are the world's best salesman!" congratulated Bijala.

**- N. Ramprasath, Std.X, BEL School, Bangalore**

# GOKULAM

POTTER MAGIC!

# POSITIVE THINKING!

Story : P. KARTHIK, Chennai Pictures : PILLAI

King Mahadev was the wise and just ruler of Mahadevpur.

Now that my good friend and adviser, Prime Minister Basantraj is dead, I must find a suitable replacement!

King Mahadev shortlisted two candidates. Both had excellent credentials.

Both of you can meet me in the evening for the final test.

In the evening -
If I were to appoint the other candidate and reject you, what would you think?
I would think that it is my misfortune that I am unable to serve you.
How would you feel if I appointed the other candidate and not you?
I would be disappointed.... that you and your subjects will not benefit from my wisdom!
Although both of you are equally wise, I appoint him for his faith in his wisdom!

# ART GALLERY

**SUNAYNA LINGGI,**
Std.III, Intaya Public School, Roing,
Arunachal Pradesh.

**SHARON PAULINE,**
Std.IX,
CAL Public School,
Hyderabad

**TEJASWI S. KAMATH,**
Std.IV, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan,
New Delhi

**R.DINESH,**
Std.IX, Swami Shivananda HSS.,
Coimbatore

**BRINDHA,** Std.X,
Kendriya Vidyalaya No.1,
Goa

# NEW KRISH CROSS - 1

**Rules and Entry Form on Reverse**

**CLUES Across :** 1. South Indian language, reads the same forward & backward (9)

8. Male pig-sounds very dull (4)

9. Tamil fisherman's raft made of tied logs. (9)

10. Chess piece or person easily manipulated (4)

13. No ..... without fire. Don't for your health's sake! (5)

15. Reflections of sound waves (6)

16. Language spoken in the Middle East & N.Africa (6)

17. A timid batsman may duck to this from a fast bowler. Abundant crop. (6)

19. Dalai Lama's palace in Lhasa, Tibet (6)

20. Machine's rotating part (5)

21. Every one; troubled ache (4)

24. Tendulkar scores them easily ..... in hundreds of years? (9)

25. A thousand - prefixing metre/ gram. (4)

26. Space traveller .... Kalpana Chawla was one (9)

**Down.** 2. The first man, who ate the apple (4)

3. Maulana Abul Kalam or Cricketer Kirti (4)

4. Sudden fears or clocks to wake you early in the morning (6)

5. 49th State of USA, bordering Canada (6)

6. Hairy beast in the Arctic Circle (two words 5, 4)

7. A state in N.E. India (9)

11. Spinners bowl them. The limb fractures! (3, 6)

12. Chlorides, nitrates, e.g. used in labs (9)

13. Cut off the jumbled verse (5)

14. In terror, losing head, you may commit this mistake (5)

18. Roadside playboys harassing Juliets (6)

19. Magical boy Harry Does he use clay? (6)

22. Broad smile, sported by Alice's Cheshire cat (4)

23. Mountain abode of Lord Siva (4)

(Figure. in brackets indicates number of letters)

Devised by **Krishnaswamy**

## ENTRY FORM

Name : (Mr/Ms) .....

Age : ..... Class .....

School : .....

*Residential Address : .....

.....Pin .....

Signature : .....

* Local address is a must for overseas entries.

**The Editor, Gokulam, Kalki Buildings,**
**47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 032.**

• Strictly for school going children • Five lucky winners will get a cash award of Rs.50/- each. They will be decided by a draw of lots from out of the all correct entries. • Completed entries accepted on this form only • No xerox copies. **Last Date : 10.7.2005**

## Solution to Spot it Right - 18

**Aishwarya Rai**

## *Congratulations!*

**The five lucky winners are :**

1. **Rubina Isidore,** Std.X, Fatima High School, Ambarnath (W), Maharashtra

2. **Surya Sethuraman,** Std.VI, Carmel Convent, B.H.E.L., Bhopal

3. **J. Kowsalya Varthini,** Std.IX, Adaikala Annai H.S. School, Kaduvanur

4. **R. Abhishek,** Std.V, Airforce Bal Bharthi, Haryana

5. **Megha Shrimali,** Std.IX, Kendriya Vidyalaya No., Vasco, Goa

# GARDEN OF PLEASURE!

Nandankanan is located about 20 kms. away from Bhubaneswar The term Nandankanan means 'The garden of pleasure.' It is located near Chandaka forest area.

Kanjia Lake in Nandankanan separates the Botanical and Zoological Gardens. The two gardens (areas) are connected by a 620 metres long aerial ropeway with cable cars which provides a bird's eye view of the whole area.

The Botanical Garden has a huge rose garden, cacti plantations, and other flora collections. It is also an excellent picnic spot.

The zoological garden is much larger in area. It houses 67 species of mammals, 18 varieties of reptiles and 81 species of birds. The most important feature of the Zoo is the huge statue of a Tyrranosaurus Rex dinosaur which marks the entrance of the zoo.

Other special features of Nandankanan are the toy train, the aquarium house, boating in Kanjia Lake and the children's park.

Some incredible facts about Nandankanan are :

* The world's first Ghurial crocodile breeding was done here after bringing an adult male ghurial from Frankfurt zoo of Germany.

* Nandankanan's white Tiger Breeding Centre is the only one of its kind in the world.

* Lion Safari comprising an area of 20 hectares and route length of 3 kms is the largest one in India and first of its kind in the world.

* The white Tiger safari, established in 1991 and comprising an area of 12 hectares is the only one of its kind in the world.

* The 620 metres long aerial ropeway is the first ropeway in an Indian zoo.

**- Chandrakant Patra, Std.X,**
**BJEM School, Bhubaneswar**

NEW

SERIAL CHAPTER - 1

# THE CASE OF THE MISSING CHILDREN!

'CAPITAL city plagued by kidnapping menace!'

'Delhi school children kidnapped - parents, teachers panic stricken!'

'Delhi police baffled as kidnappings continue unabated.'

'President, P.M. condemn Delhi kidnappings - police under pressure!...'

Newspaper and T.V. channel headlines were dominated by kidnappings.

In the meantime the Home Minister was pressurising the Police and the CID to nab the culprits. Parents and teachers were even debating whether schools should be closed down. Anxious parents had carried out demonstrations in front of Parliament House against government inaction.

In the police headquarters a high level meeting was convened. DCP Vinod an upright, intelligent officer who had handled several tricky cases successfully in the past was asked to handle the case.

"All the best, Vinod. You have the entire police force at your disposal. I have assured the minister that if there is someone who can solve the case, it is you". The commissioner held Vinod's hand in a firm clasp. "I am sure your strategy will work. We'll keep it a secret between the two of us!" he added.

Vinod addressed a press conference soon after leaving the room. T.V. channels broadcast it live. Viewers watched a calm, confident police officer patiently answering the excited presspersons.

"Why has there been no breakthrough so far?" asked a pressman

"We are on the job. We'll keep you informed as and when we have nabbed the gang."

"Do you mean to say parents will just have to risk losing their chil-

LALITHAA

dren, while you slowly carry out investigations?"

"Certainly not! As a father myself, I sympathise with their plight. I am confident of a breakthrough in a couple of days." It touched a humane cord with the public. "In the meantime we have posted our men in all sensitive areas and request parents and teachers to alert us to any suspicious activity in the neighbourhood. You may call me directly on my hotline 00900980 at any time." he assured.

"Parents and teachers! Please do not panic! At the same time, caution children against talking or accepting gifts or sweets from strangers. There is no need to be apprehensive, but let us all be alert. With your cooperation we will soon nab the gang."

The moment Vinod stepped into his house, he was accosted by his wailing wife.

"I'm not sending Vignesh to school. I'm ashamed of your department. You know Vignesh's friend...."

"Yes, yes... Karthik was kidnapped. C'mon Kamal, I can't believe it. You, my wife... DCP Vinod's wife..."

"Stop it! I'm Vignesh's mother! Vignesh, my only son. If something happens to him... like Karthik... My god! How can you policemen be so complacent? 'Have a heart! We'll

## THE CASE OF THE MISSING CHILDREN!

# SURPRISE ENDING CONTEST!

Hi folks.

Hope you enjoy this new serial. Here's a tip off for Gokulam fans. You can participate too in solving The Case of the Missing Children!

Keep reading each chapter of this serial until you get to the fifth chapter. Then guess how the story will end. If your guess is right, you win the prize! Simple!

All the best. Happy reading!

nab them.' 'We'll do this and that!' Vignesh will not go to school until you have that gang behind bars!"

"Oh Kamal! Don't be ridiculous! What will people say?..."

"I don't care. Well... or else you can ask a constable to escort him!"

"Well, well! Joke of the century! If every mother in Delhi wants an escort for her child then... And anyway will anybody dare kidnap DCP Vinod's son?"

"Mom, dad is right. I'm sure he'll get Karthik freed. And nothing will happen to me. See, I am as brave as daddy! If it comes to the worst I'll trick them or fight them and escape. Don't make a fuss".

"That's my son! You must set an example in school. Just walk down as usual to school. Everything will be fine."

Next morning, the discussion continued. Ultimately, Vinod and his son convinced Kamal that Vignesh would come to no harm. Vignesh waved goodbye to his mother, who kept giving him last minute advice, and walked off to school.

About fifty metres away from school he saw an auto parked. He walked on. Two hefty men in the auto were smoking and seemed to be waiting... for what? for whom?

**To be continued...**

# TEMPLE CITY OF INDIA!

Fasten your seat belts and get ready to travel to the wonderful City of Temples where the temples themselves speak to you about the history and cultural heritage of India.

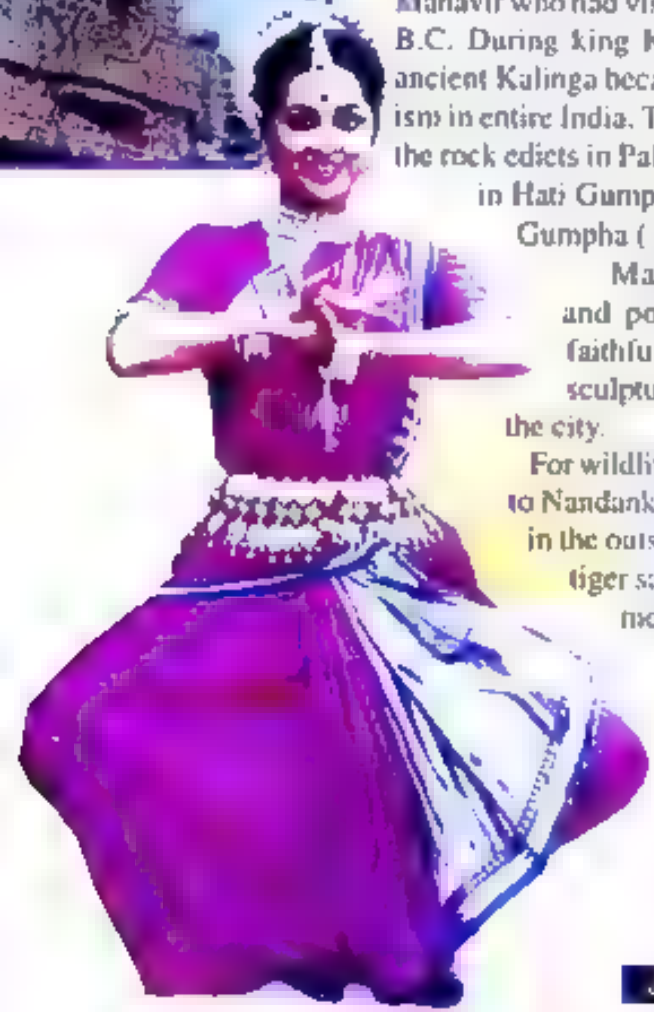
First, let us visit the Linguraj temple, epitome of Orissan architecture. Started by Jajati Keshari and completed during the reign of Lalatendu Keshari, this temple was assigned to the period of 1030-1065 A.D. The tower of the temple soars to a height of 180 feet. It is believed to be the most sacred of the twelve Jyotirlingas of India. A fascinating fact is that a Swayambhu (self- established) linga is being worshipped in the temple.

Kedar- Gouri and Mukteswar temples are also examples of Orissa's splendid architecture. The Mukteswar temple built in the 10th century A.D. has a stunningly beautiful archway, soaring to a height of 10.5 mts. This temple has been described as a " Dream realized in sandstone". Lord Mukteswar, the God of salvation is worshipped here. From top to bottom, it is very fascinating and full of artistic works.

Now let us visit the Rajarani temple.This majestic piece of 11th century architecture

derives its name from a variety of sandstone called the Rajarani which the temple is made of. The large garden on which it is situated is liked by visitors because the setting sun forms a dramatic backdrop on the chiseled lines of the temple.

Now visit the monument which reminds us about Kulinga war and of King Ashoka's change of heart, the Peace Pagoda - Dhauli. One can have a



view of the vast devastation of the war and 14 rock edicts of Ashoka's empire ( written in Brahmi script). This 20th century structure of great aesthetic appeal is located 6 k.m from city center by the side of Daya River in a peaceful and serene environment. This is the striking landmark in the skyline of our temple city.

About 8 k.m. away from the city , lie the Jain caves of Khandagiri and Udayagiri. The history of Jainism in Orissa takes us back to the lifetime of Mahavir who had visited the Udayagiri hills in 600 B.C. During king Kharabela's period (200B.C.) ancient Kalinga became an important seat of Jainism in entire India. The most interesting things are the rock edicts in Pali language of King Kharabela in Hati Gumpha ( Elephant cave) and Rani Gumpha ( Queen cave).

Many of the technical poses and postures of Odissi dance are faithfully preserved in innumerable sculptures that adorn the temples in the city.

For wildlife enthusiasts and others a visit to Nandankanan is a must. The sanctuary in the outskirts of the city has a lion and tiger safari, a lake and is an ideal picnic spot.

Oops! We have come to the end of our tour. Hope you will all actually visit this exquisite temple city soon.

**- Swati Samikshya Sahoo, Std.V, DAV Public School, Bhubaneswar**

# CREATIVE CORNER

Personalize your stationery with beautiful pressed flowers.

**Things you need :** ***(For 1 sheet)***

1. Flowers and leaves (You can also pick out the flowers from bouquets)
2. Two sheets of tissue paper

3. Heavy books
4. One sheet of good quality paper
5. A paint brush
6. Fevicol

**Procedure :**

1. Start by finding flowers or leaves to use (making sure it's okay to pick them).

2 Sandwich the flowers and leaves between the two sheets of tissue paper (You can separate the petals if the flowers are too big), then place between the pages of a thick book. The tissue will absorb any moisture and will protect your book.

3. Put heavy books on top of the book with the flowers in it. This way, the flowers and leaves will become flat and dry. Leave the books undisturbed for one week.

4. When your flower has dried, use a paint brush to spread a thin layer of fevicol on top of a sheet of paper. Only spread the fevicol where you want your flower to be placed.

5. Carefully remove the pressed flower from the book and place it on top of the paper. Once the flower touches the fevicol it can't be moved, so be sure to put it where you want it to stay.

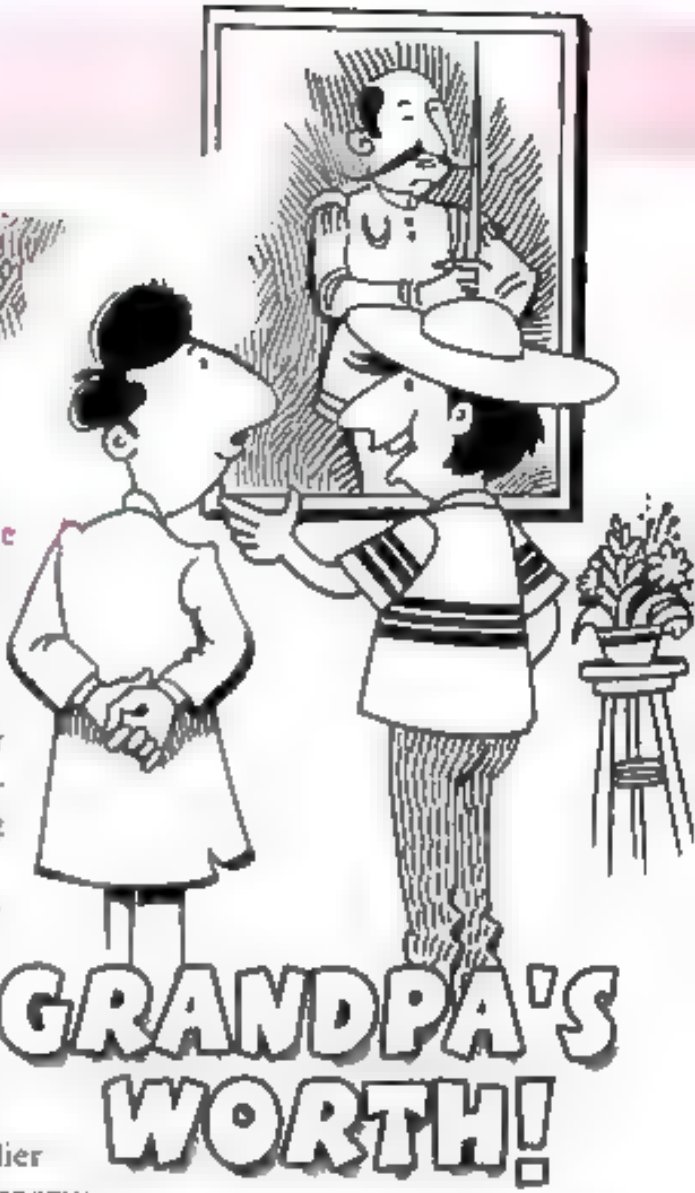
6. After it dries, your stationery is ready!

* *You can make personalised envelopes & book marks too!*

**- Yeshaswini Halthore,**
**II PUC, V.J.P.U.C.,**
**Bangalore.**

STORY

# GRANDPA'S WORTH!



Mahendra once strayed into a shop selling curios and paintings. He was attracted to a portrait of a well built soldier sporting a thick moustache and holding a big sword.

As he stood admiring it, the shop owner strolled down and asked him, "Would you like to have this, sir? He was a brave soldier who killed hundred enemy soldiers in battle. Only two hundred rupees, sir!"

Mahendra checked the contents of his purse. He had only a hundred and ninety. The owner would not budge. So Mahendra left without the painting.

A week later, Mahendra went to visit his friend. In the drawing room hung the portrait of the soldier.

"This was my grandfather!" he boasted. "He killed a hundred and fifty soldiers in a single encounter."

'He would have been my grandpa if only I had ten rupees more that day' mused Mahendra!

**- Ananya Mishra, Std.VII,**
**Ruchika High School,**
**Bhubaneswar**

NEXT MONTH

NEW PICTURE SERIAL

BY MAAYURAN

# SHERLOCK SHANKAR HOLMES!

# STRIPELESS ZEBRA!

Aazhi

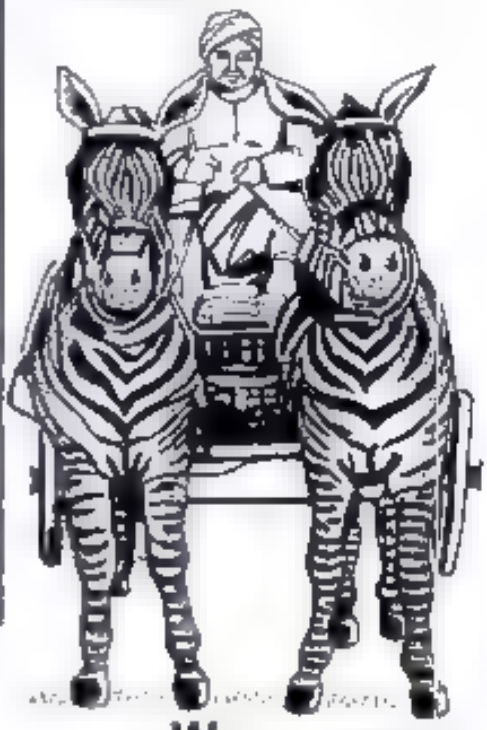
Zebras are generally found in Africa. They are of two types. 1. Grevy's Zebra 2. Mountain Zebra. The difference is only in the stripes.

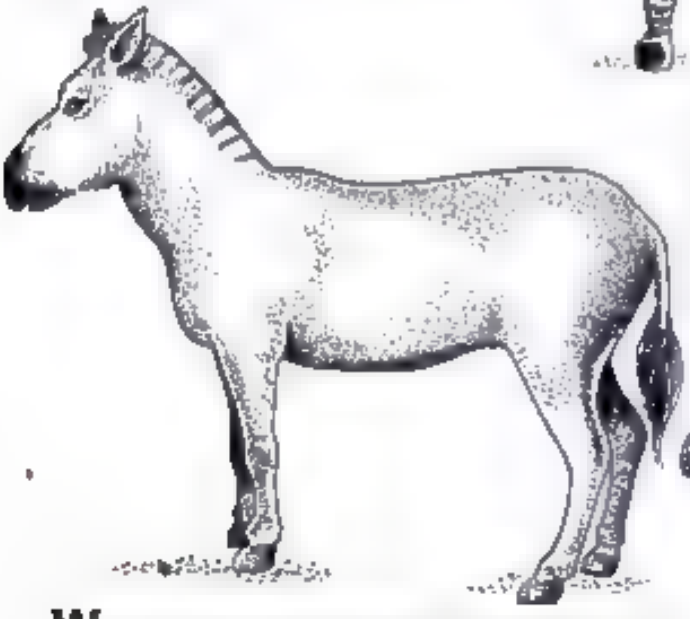
Like finger prints in humans, the stripes of each zebra is distinctive. The stripes of one zebra will not be identical to those of any other zebra.

While grazing, all the zebras will be proceeding in the same direction. However, a single zebra will keep watch in the opposite direction with its back to the other zebras!

If by chance, a single zebra were to graze in the forest it would have a 'Kongonis' deer for company. While the zebra is resting, this deer stands guard against enemies. If it spots danger, it would alert the zebra.

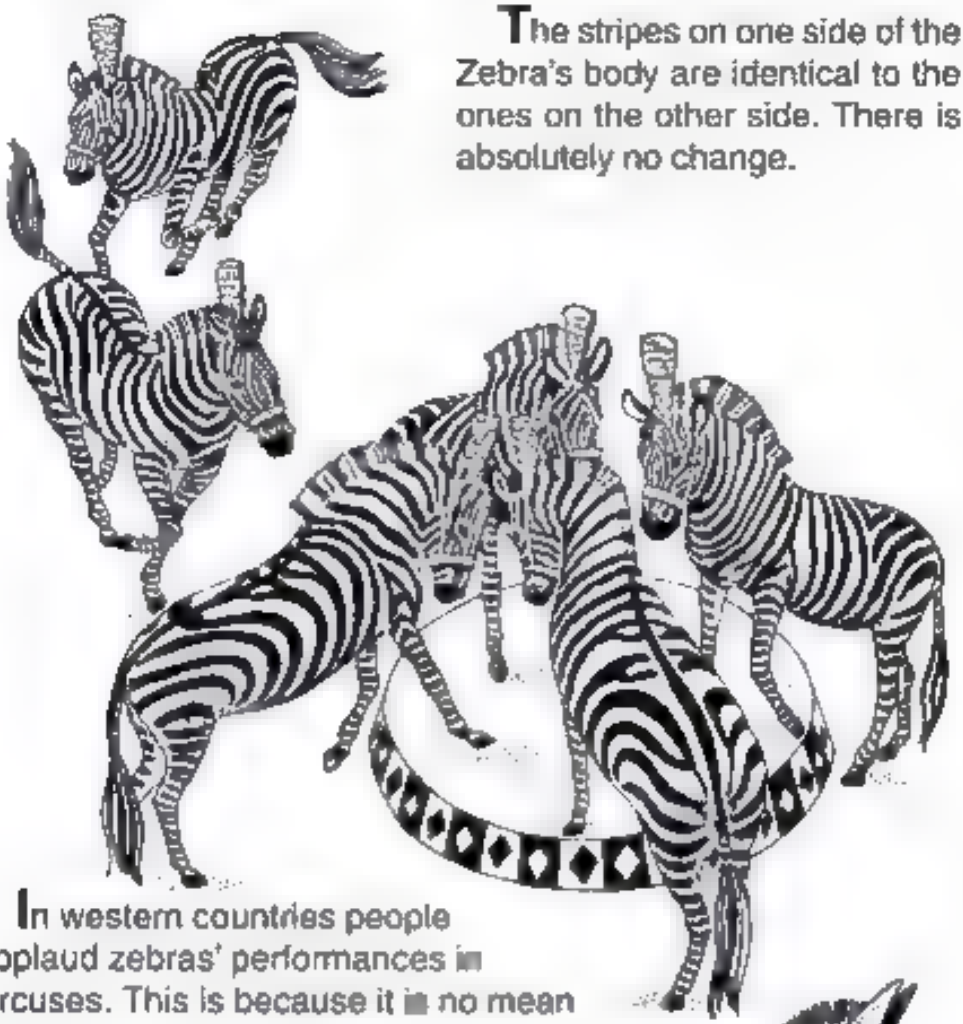
Zebras are very temperamental creatures. However somehow in Mewar in India, zebras are being used to draw carts!





We are still not quite sure whether the zebra sports white stripes on a black body or black stripes on a white body!

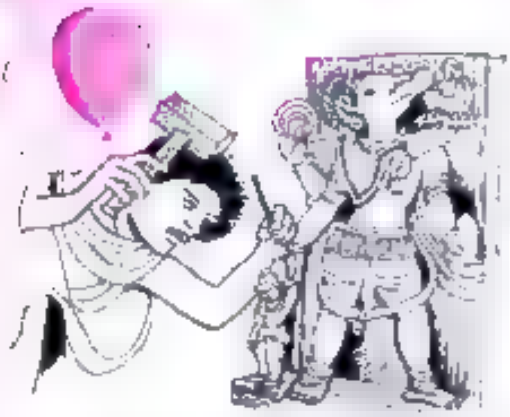
We all know that zebras are striped animals. But did you know that some zebras are born without their stripes? This rare occurence is known as Albino birth!



The stripes on one side of the Zebra's body are identical to the ones on the other side. There is absolutely no change.

In western countries people applaud zebras' performances in circuses. This is because it is no mean task to train zebras!

Have you heard of striped asses? Offspring of ass-zebra couples are called Ass zebra! Their legs are striped while the rest of the body is like an ass. In the zoo in Jerusalem, Israel, one can see an Ass zebra. There are only five Ass zebras in the whole world!



## TEMPLE CITY

*Bhubaneswar, the capital of Orissa*
*And the ancient kingdom of Kalinga*
*Famous for Lingaraj and*
*Mukteswara temples*
*The Rajarani and*
*Parameswara Temples*
*Beside the Dhauligiri flows the Daya*
*While the double storeyed*
*Rani's cave is the Gumpha.*

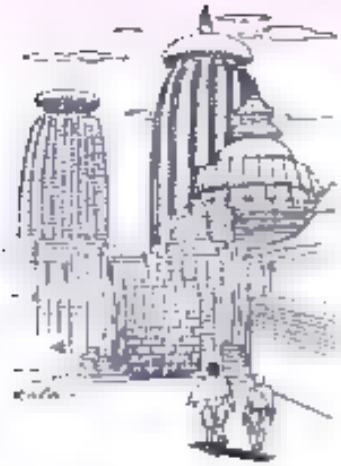
POEMS

Everyone I know seems to wear a mask,
I don't know why; I don't want to ask.
'Cause growing up may be part of life, but then all the same,
I don't want people growing up at a rate so very insane.

My sister loved playing badminton with me,
But now for her I don't exist you see.
Earrings, lipstick and clothes are all she cares about,
Rules on T.V. hours are what she loves to flout.
Where is that sister of mine who once was my friend?
Those were the good old days, why did they have to end?

My mother baked cakes for us on Sunday afternoons,
She used to love board games and tidying up the rooms,
She used to play and cook and work all day,
But now she declares she's turning old and grey.

# GROWING UP!



*The city is famous for*
*sculptures and pata paintings*
*The Hatakeshwara*
*temple has the Atri hot springs.*
*Temple city of India.*
*Bhubaneswar*
*A lovely city indeed*
*Bhubaneswar*
***- A. Lakshmy, Std.IX,***
***K.V. Meenambakkam.***

She says she wants to take a break, and have some peace and quiet,
I don't know what's happening to her, it just doesn't seem right.

My father was a cricket champ, an ardent football fan,
He used to be so energetic, the best of all the clan,
The strength of the whole family, the Dad who was the best,
Now flops down on the sofa and says he needs to rest.
He says he's having a mid-life crisis; his head is turning bald,
I don't think I like this new Dad of mine at all.

And all my friends are growing up; they are way too old,
To pretend we're meeting fairy friends, or prospecting for gold.
Their clothes will get dirty if they go about climbing trees,
They have to sit still or their hair will get ruffled in the breeze.
All my friends are drifting away and acting so very strange,
I just can't think why, maybe I'm not accustomed to change.

If everyone around me is growing up so fast,
Then maybe I'm growing too, and realising it at last.
If everything is changing, then I'm changing too.
And around me the world is changing, including me and you.
And if I ever ask myself, "Why do we have to grow?"
Maybe I should console myself, saying the
process is quite slow!

**- Priyanka Kumar, Class IX**
**Ashok Hall Girls' HSS, Kolkata.**

# IMAGINATIVE

In any profession, a "career" does not develop overnight, and when it comes to cartooning, many intended, unintended and accidental forces guide and shape the path in which a cartoonist's career moves.

Cartoonists create images for various formats, including films, newspaper editorials, and comic strips. Some cartoonists use original ideas and others use current news events to inspire their drawings.

Cartoonists use pens, crayons, paints, and other materials to create designs. They work on paper, acetate, or bristol board. Sometimes animators use computer programs to color images. Cartoonists color and shape patterns to create mood and dramatic effects.

**Comic strip animators** tell short stories or jokes with a series of cartoons. They produce comic strips for newspapers and comic books. Some comic strips are in black and white others are in color.

**Animators who work on films** draw many individual pictures that look similar but vary slightly. These drawings may be done by hand or on a computer. To produce motion pictures, the pictures are shown at high speed. For films, some animators work on characters while others work on background scenes.

**Editorial cartoonists** draw pictures based on daily news events. They often draw pictures of politicians and use satire to make a point. Newspapers and magazines usually print these cartoons in the editorial section.

Some **cartoonists work for advertising agencies**. They draw cartoons that show how a scene or

commercial will look. If the client or creative director likes the idea, it is produced using real actors. Animators may create graphics used for Internet advertising.

**Knowledge**

- Fine Arts: Knowledge of the methods and concepts needed to create or perform works of art. Areas of knowledge may include visual arts, drama and sculpture.
- Communications and Media: Knowledge of producing, sharing and delivering information or entertainment. This may be through written, spoken or visual media.
- Design: Knowledge of making and using plans, blueprints, drawings and models.

**Qualifications**

Although most famous cartoonists have had no formal education, these days education is a pre-requisite.

- A Degree in Visual Communication.
- A Diploma/ Degree in Fine Arts.
- A Diploma/ Degree in Animation and movie making.

# ARTISTS

Ideally, a cartoonist bases a career on his interests, creative objectives and desires — yet always tempered with a realistic understanding that one has to flex, bend and twist to market forces

So if you are a real art freak and pretty good at sketching your parents, neighbours and your dog, the world of cartooning may be just right for you. Pick up your pad and pencil and unleash the force of your imagination on this world.

***To be concluded next month with***
**MICROBIOLOGY**
*Feedback to :*
***gokulam@careersindia.com***

# JOKES

**Wife :** Drink your coffee quickly.
**Husband :** Why?
**Wife :** If it gets cold you'll have to pay fifteen rupees!

**- Ambika Ghosh, Std.IX, DAV Public School, Kolkata**

**Santa :** I have to learn Telugu immediately to communicate with my child.
**Banta :** Why?
**Santa :** I adopted a Telugu baby who will start talking in another six months!

**- Priyanka Charan, Std.X, R.K.Public School, Barmer, Rajasthan**

# WORD PLAY!

**Mother :** How did you get that swelling on your nose?
**Jimmy :** I bent down to smell a 'brose'!
**Mother :** You mean, 'rose'! There's no 'B' in rose!
**Jimmy :** There was a 'b' (bee) on this rose. It stung me!

**- Madhuri, Std.X, K.V. No.1, Vasco, Goa**

**Teacher :** How do you spell cat?
**Tom :** K-A-T.
**Teacher :** The dictionary spells it as c-a-t.
**Tom :** But Ma'am, you asked me how I spell it!

**- Tanushree Krishna, Hosur, TN**

NEW

# Arjun Kannan

**Hi friends,**

My mother always complains that I am very loquacious. Does it sound Greek and Latin to your ears? A person who talks a lot is **loquacious**. As a matter of fact it is derived from Latin ***loquor***, meaning 'to speak'. An **eloquent** person is expressive and has artistic and emotional appeal. A **ventriloquist** is one who can throw his voice (Latin ***ventris*** : belly ). **Circumlocution** is a way of expressing ideas in a roundabout manner (***circum***: around). Finally a person who uses high flown language is **magniloquent** (***magnus***: large).

This new feature aims at helping you learn new words through etymology. What is etymology? Etymology is the science which deals with the origin of words. English, as it is now, contains many words that are derived from Latin and to a lesser extent Greek. It should be noted that many words which are included in English from other modern European languages also have their roots in Latin. However the basic English language is derived from German (imposed on the British by the Angles

# GREEK AND LATIN!

and the Saxons).

## WRITING IS A SKILL!

***Graphein***, is a Greek verb, meaning 'to write'. Thus **graphology,** is the 'science of writing' (***logos***: science).A **graphologist** analyses handwriting, and is often called upon to verify signatures, in case forgery is suspected. The old art of **calligraphy** also derives its name from **grapheln** and Greek ***kallos***, meaning beauty. A **calligrapher** designs and writes posters, announcements and so on, in an artistic fashion.

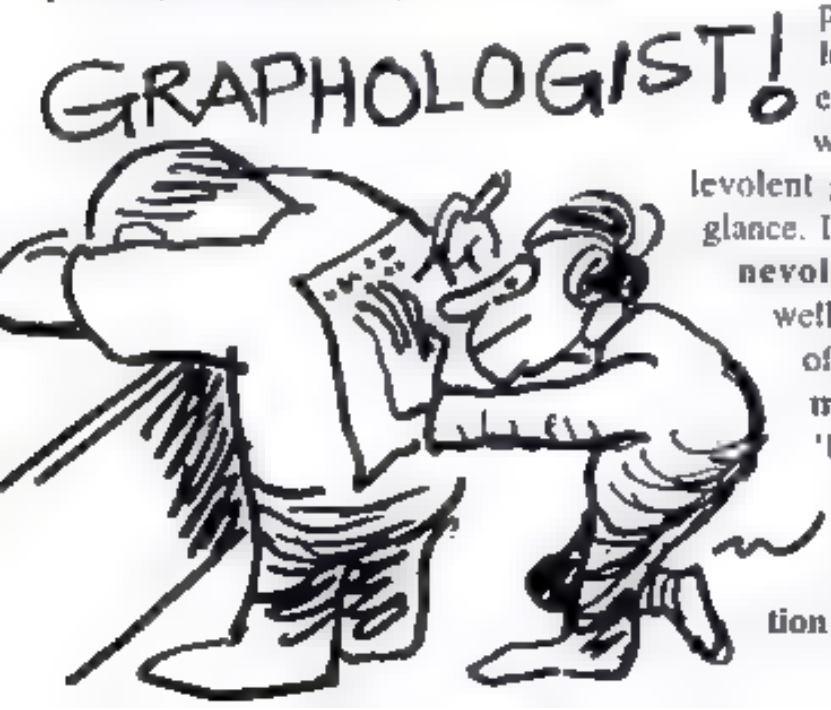
A **photographer** 'writes by light' (Greek ***photos***: light), i.e., takes photographs, while a **telegraph** is used to send distant messages (Greek ***tele***: distance). A **biography** is the life history of any person (Greek ***bios***: life).

## TIME IS RELATIVE!

The Greek word ***chronos***, meaning time, is a source of many a word. Anything **chronological** is in correct order of time. To **synchronize** two things is to set them at the same time (***syn***: with,together). For example, you can synchronize two watches; synchronize your arm and leg motions while jogging etc. Science fiction is usually **anachronous**, i.e., belongs to a different era, usually the future (***an***: is a negative prefix).

## GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS!

The Latin words ***bonus and malus*** mean good and bad respectively. Thus a **malignant** tumour is cancerous. To **malign** someone is to spread 'bad' information about him, i.e., to slander or defame that person. **Malevolent** means wishing evil (Latin ***volo***: to wish). Thus a malevolent glance is an evil glance. Its antonym is **benevolent**, or wishing well (the adverb form of bonus is ***bene***). A **malediction** is a 'bad saying', or curse (***dictus, dico***: to tell), while a **benediction** is a blessing.



A **bona fide** offer, is a valid offer, an offer 'in good faith' (Latin ***fides***: faith). Thus **fidelity** means faithfulness.

**Volition**, which means a willing act is derived from ***volo*** meaning 'to wish'.

E.g. I donated my eyes of my own volition.

### NOW, ISN'T IT EASY?

Answer the following questions and find out for yourself how quickly you have learnt! Before you know it you'll be magniloquent!

1. You know that ***volo*** means 'to wish'. Using this root, which word describes a person who offers to help willingly?

2. The prefix ***con(col)*** means with or together. Combining this with **loquor**, which adjective describes the language used when talking informally?

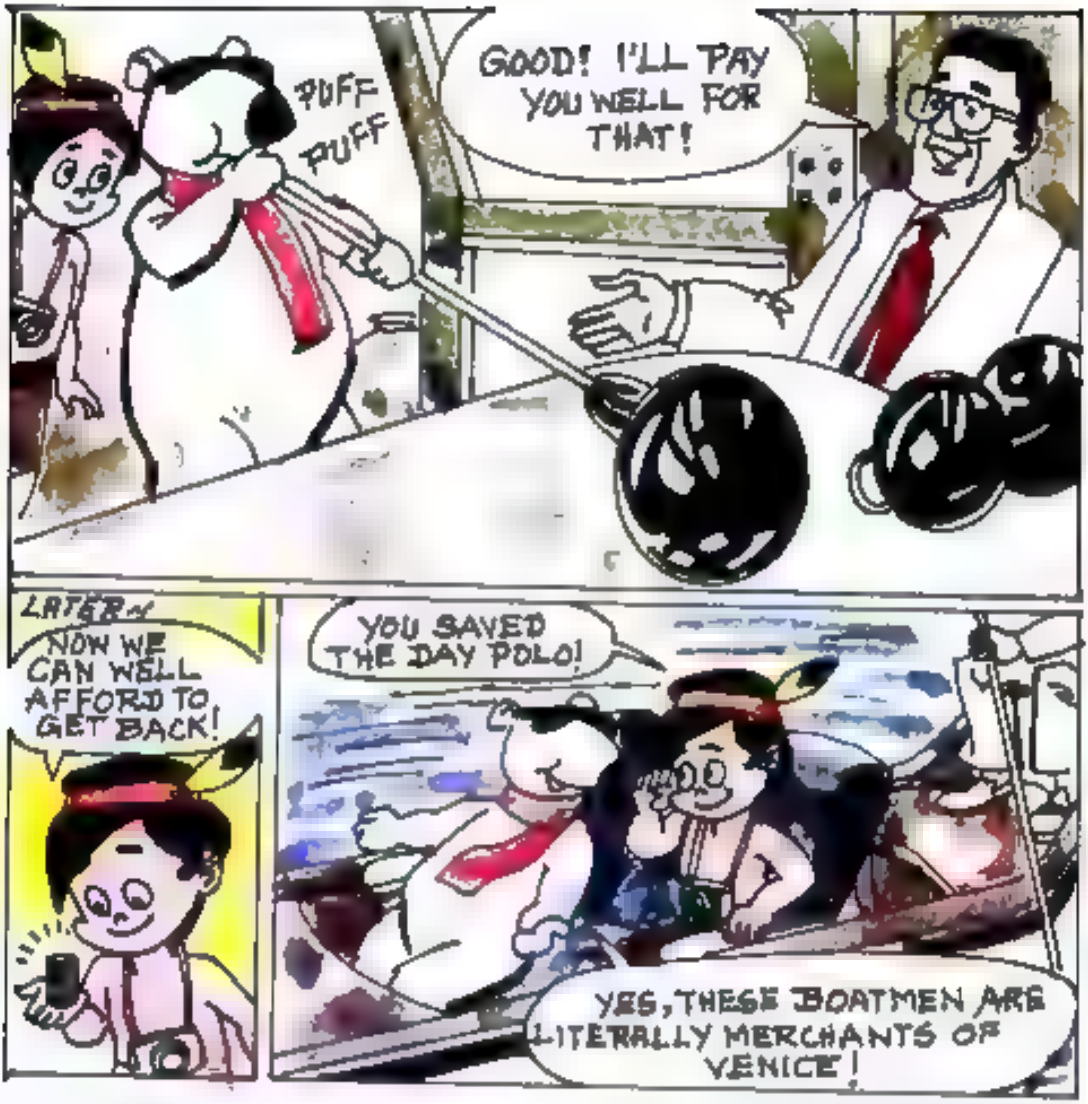
3. Just as ***kallos*** means beauty, ***kakos*** means bad or ugly. Using ***kakos*** and ***graphein***, which word describes bad, illegible handwriting? (Use calligraphy as a model)

4. Greek ***phone*** means sound. Using ***kakos*** and ***phone***, which word describes a harsh and unpleasant sound? (pronounce this word and it sounds unpleasant to the ear)

5. ***Metron*** means measurement. Using ***chronos*** and ***metron*** as roots which word describes a highly accurate timepiece? (Use thermometer, barometer etc. as models)

Answers: 1. Volunteer 2. Colloquial 3. Cacography 4. Cacophony 5. Chronometer

TOMO IN VENICE!
STORY: P.R
PICTURES: JEYARAJ
50 MINUTES- 50 EUROS...
25 IS ALL WE HAVE!
THEN TAKE THE WATER-BUS.
WE'LL SETTLE FOR YOUR GONDOLA 25 MINUTES- OK?
WOW!
AMAZING!
NOW.. 25 MINUTES UP! GET OFF HERE PLEASE!
..BUT WE'VE GOT TO GET BACK!
WE ARE STRANDED
NEAR A GLASS FACTORY~
THE OWNER OF THE FACTORY-
COME HERE! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
COULD I BLOW THE GLASS FOR YOU?

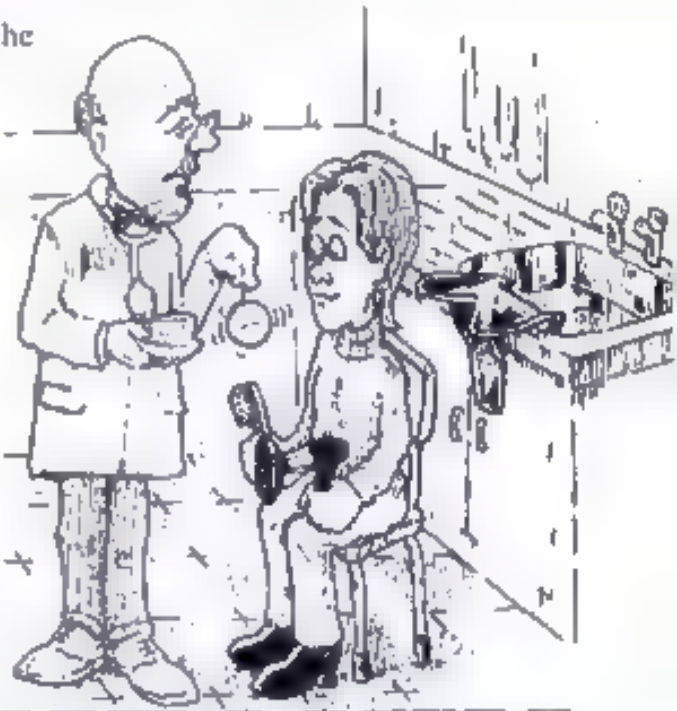



Venice is crisscrossed by canals. The main thoroughfare in Venice is the Grand Canal built on eighteen tiny islands linked by canals and bridges and curves through the heart of the red tiled roofs of the city. The best mode of transport around the city is the 'Vaporetto' or water bus. Gondola rides are expenseive but worth the thrill of floating magically down canals visiting the important sights. Venice has innumerable palaces, churches and art museums.

The art of glassmaking was developed in Venice as far back as the 7th century. By 1291 AD glassmakers had established themselves in Murano island. Glassmakers of Venice were very special because they were the only people in Europe who knew how to make a mirror and it is said that if ever a craftsman tried to leave Murano he would be beheaded! Crystalline glass, enameled glass, glass with threads of gold, multicoloured glass etc. were also developed by them. Even today tourists can have a free glassblowing demonstration at some units in Murano.

PUZZLES

# HEALTH is WEALTH!



**I. Specialists!**

July 1st is World Doctors' Day. We dedicate this puzzle to the thousands of doctors and specialists who serve the people.

Match each field ■ the doctor (specialist) :

1. Mental or emotional disturbances
2. Nervous system
3. Skin
4. Children
5. Eyes
6. Heart
7. Skeletal system
8. Elderly

a) Pediatrician
b) Ophthalmologist
c) Geriatrician
d) Psychiatrist
e) Orthopaedist
f) dermatologist
g) Neurologist
h) cardiologist

**- V.Anusha, Std.X, Chennai**

**II. Who am I?**

a) I am a four letter animal. My first three letters spell the name of a place. The last three letters spell a grain. The first two letters would be a verb. Who am I?

b) I am a box who can't keep mum! Who am I?

c) My childhood was green, youth was red, I am fleshy. Who am I?

**- T.R. Rachana, Std.VIII, Chennai**

**III. Hey Riddle Diddle!**

a) Which part of the body do carpenters use?

b) What did father chimney say to baby chimney?

c) What is GEG?

d) Which ring is courageous?

e) What has legs but can't kick?

**- Swathi H. Narayanan, Std.VII, Mumbai**

**IV. Conundrums**

1. The action that draws one nearer.
2. The fruit which man goes to pluck.
3. The biggest key in the world
4. A rope which cannot be tied.
5. The country that has pain.
6. The city on the verge of explosion.

**- Aiswarya S.Nair, Std.VIII, Ambarnath (W)**

**Answers :**

**I.** 1.d, 2.g, 3.f, 4.a, 5.b, 6.h, 7.e, 8.c

**II.** a) Gum b) Chalk box c) Tomato

**III.** a) Nails b) You're too young c) smoke c) Scrumbled egg d) dining e) chair

**IV.** 1.Arm'action' 2.Mango 3.Tur'key' 4.Eu'rope' 5.Spain 6. 'Bomb'ay

# ORISSA MEDLEY!

SNIPPETS

"The Abode of the Lord of the World" is the literal meaning of Bhubaneswar. The city is named after 'Tribhubaneswar' or Lord Lingaraj, the Lord of the three worlds or Lord Shiva. Popularly known as 'Temple city of India' the skyline of old Bhubaneswar is dotted with temple spires. New Bhubaneswar with its modern buildings and infrastructure blends perfectly with the old!

**- Ankita Bhat, Std.VIII, BPM High School, Mumbai**

The famous Asokan rock edict is located at Dhauli, 8 km south of the city. The sculpted elephant atop the edict signifies the Mauryan Emperor's conversion to Buddhism after his victory in the great Kalinga war. This is said to be the earliest rock cut sculpture in India.

On the Dhaulagiri Hills where the war was fought, stands a modern monument, the Vishwa Shanti Stupa. This was built with Indo Japanese collaborations. River Daya flows peacefully at the foothills.

**- Bidhi Samantray, Std.VIII, Bhubaneswar**

Orissa is famous for its exquisitely carved temples at Bhubaneswar, Puri and Konark. While Jagannath Puri is considered to be one of the "Char Dham" (four most holy places), the Sun Temple at Konark is an architectural marvel.

**- R. Arun, Std.VIII, RVMHSS, Villupuram, TN**

The old city of Bhubaneswar was founded by the Keshari Dynasty who were devotees of Lord Shiva. The famous French Designer, Le Corbuis made the master plan for the new city. In 1955, the State Capital was shifted

from Cuttack Bhubaneswar.

**- Binoy Sarangi, Std.X, Cuttack**

Orissa thrives in preservation of wildlife. Tikarpara Gharial Sanctuary, 200 kms from Bhubaneswar is famous for its Gharial breeding. Bhitarkanika is a paradise for Olive Ridley Turtles. Simlipal Tiger Reserve in northern Orissa is under Project Tiger. In and around Bhubaneswar are located the Chandka Elephant Reserve and Nandankanan sanctuary. Chilka lake spread over an area of 1100 sq. kms, the largest brackish water lake in the country, attracts migratory birds besides dolphins and other mammals.

**- B. Pranav, Std.IX, Don Bosco School, Kolkata.**

For the first time, breeding of Royal Bengal Tiger resulted in the birth of three white tigers in Nandankanan zoo. This occurred due to recessive mutation. Nandankanan boasts of the first White Tiger Safari in the world.

**- Shyam Siddha Tripathy, Std.IX, DAV Public School, Bhubaneswar.**

The Raja Rani temple has an unusual tower known for its intricate carvings of the living world. However there is no deity! The Mukteswar temple famous for the stone arch at its entrance has inscriptions of Panchatantra tales on it.

**- Dibyanshu S. Mohapatra, Std.X, DAV Public School, Bhubaneswar**

# MARKED

A student's score in the examination decides his / her future. Every college wants to have the best students in the country / state. Even a 0.01 mark difference could make a difference in ranking. When this is the case how can a 'grading system' where, say, a score of 90% - 100% (range of 10 whole marks) work?

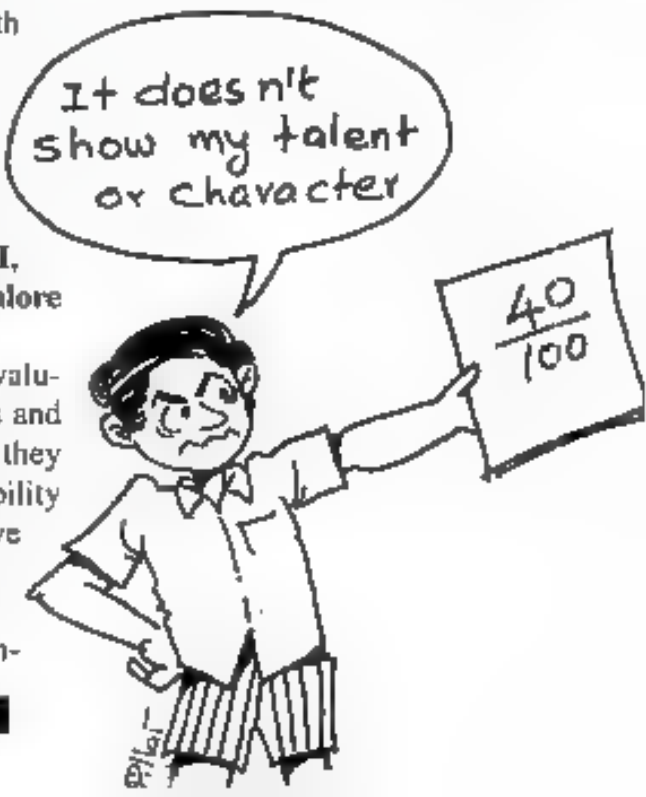
Children in today's competitive world work hard to get into good colleges. Some of them feel that grades reduce the pressure of competition. But that is not so. In general Indians work with more zeal when there is competition and are able to survive the competition worldwide!

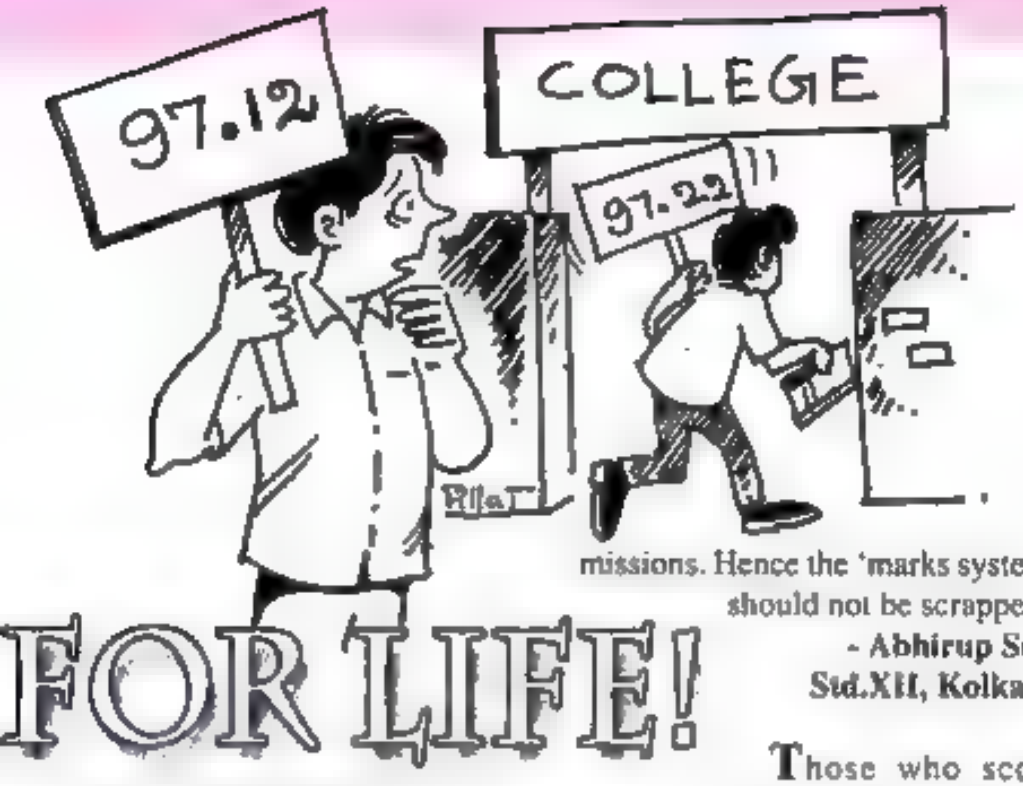
**- S. Sabaritha, Std.VIII, SKCH, Bangalore**

Students should be evaluated on the basis of marks and not grades. Only then will they be able to judge their capability and know whether they have worked hard enough. If they get 85% in the Std.X exams they can try to improve in Std.XII exams. Whereas if they get an 'A' instead, they might assume that there is no scope for improvement.

**- V. Mahalakshmi, Std.IX, St. Annes MHSS, Kumbakonam**

Each student has some latent talents. These talents or the character of the student cannot be measured in terms of marks. Even if a student gets the highest marks in class, it does not mean that he / she is the best in studies. Some students even resort to cheating. So the 'marks sys-






# FOR LIFE!

tem' may not be the best system.

**- S. Akarsh, Std.IX, K.V., Mumbai**

The State may decide to do away with the mark system. But professional colleges like IIT and AIEEE cannot do without entrance tests. So it is better for students to build up their competitive spirit. Also, if the mark system is scrapped, corruption in the form of donations and bribes will become rampant in college admissions. Hence the 'marks system' should not be scrapped.

**- Abhirup Sen, Std.XII, Kolkata.**

Those who score well in exams would say the marks measure their true talent and capacity. Those who don't do well in the exams would say that one exam cannot be a true measure of talent! Both are right and wrong, because each student is different. A student might score high marks in one subject and do very badly in another. So it is only fair that students are not evaluated only on the basis of marks.

**- R. Aditya Krishna, Std.X, V.R. School, Karimnagar, A.P.**

## QUESTION FOR THE MONTH

There is a move to ban smoking in movies and TV serials. Do you think viewers (especially children) who watch such scenes get influenced? Should a ban be imposed?

Send us your views by 10.07.05. Each published entry will receive a prize of Rs. 25/- Remember to include details of your age, class, school and residential address. Those of you who are non - residents of India should send us a local (Indian) address too.

NEW

# Tail of Excitement

Geronimo Stilton is a smart little mouse who lives in New Mouse City. He is a reporter for The Rodent's Gazette and also a detective. Every month he has an adventure and this comes out as a book. "I'm too Fond of My Fur" is book #4.

Geronimo is watching a TV program about hair (or fur) grow lotion and is ready to give it a try , when he gets a mysterious message from his scientist friend Professor Von Volt.

Geronimo, who hates travelling actually packs a bag and travels to the Himalayas to help Professor Von Volt. Though he travels with friends, Geronimo tumbles onto mysteries by himself. He also gets into some very funny situations.

At first he discovers a huge paw print. He thinks that it is the huge

BOOK NOOK

## Icicles on My Whiskers

Once again, I heard the shout.

Unnh-uuuuuuuh!!!

I followed the sound as I [illegible] from rock to rock. Who says I'm no sportsmouse? *Let's see Trap make fun of me now.* I said to myself, grinning. Then I immediately slipped and fell headfirst into a **FILE OF SNOW**.

When I got up, my whiskers were covered in [illegible]. I realized I was far away from our camp.

Suddenly, I saw it. It was a pawprint half covered in snow. A bit farther away I saw another one, and then one more!

[illegible] *Thea! Trap!* I cried.

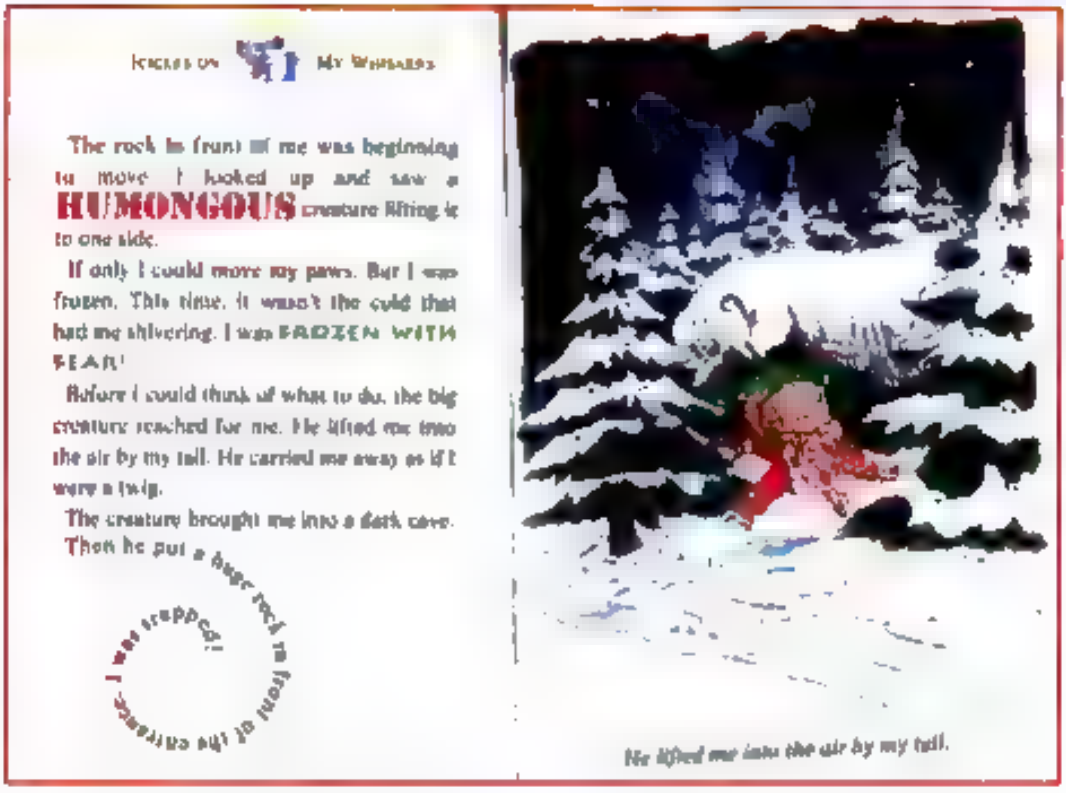




No one answered. I gulped. What if I couldn't find my way back to camp? I couldn't spend a night on this icy cold mountain all alone. I'd end up one frozen mousicle!

I decided to follow the tracks. Maybe if I kept going I could find Professor von Volt.

I made my way [redacted], pawstep by pawstep. Then the tracks *suddenly* stopped. I was about to turn back when I heard a strange creaking.




snowman (or monster) called the Yeti. His cousin Thea and friend Trap simply laugh at him. So was Geronimo speaking the truth or was he just fibbing?

Then he makes another discovery. Now even his disbelieving friends have to accept. He becomes famous because of his Himalayan adventure.

The books are meant for children aged 4-8 but are a treat even for an older age group, especially for children who do not like reading. The lettering is itself like pictures, as you can see from the excerpt. Originally published in Italian, the Geronimo series sells in millions, closely competing with Harry Potter books. The Author "Geronimo Stilton" merges with the mouse character. The books come from the Italian publisher Edizioni Piemme. The books are distributed by Scholastic and cost Rs 90.

# When Vaali Humbled Ravana!

The proud raakshasa king of Srilanka, Ravana was very sure of his prowess as he had obtained several boons from Lord Brahma. To prove his might he went about about seeking duels with mighty persons.

Having heard that the Vaanara King Vaali was a powerful person, Ravana went in search of him to Kishkinda.

He was told by Vaali's wife Tara and Ministers that Vaali has gone to the Eastern sea to perform his Sandhya and asked Ravana to await his return. But Ravana was too impatient and rode on his Pushpaka Vimana to meet Vaali and overpower him.

He was stealthily approaching Vaali, who was doing his Sandhya; but Vaali had observed his approach and also perceived his bad intentions. So Vaali, while seemingly absorbed in his ablutions, waited till Ravana came near him and encircled him with his tail. Vaali dragged Ravana along as he went to different oceans to perform his ablutions. Ravana struggled to get away. Vaali just tucked him under his arms and held him firmly there. Ravana could not get out of the clutches of Vaali.

Finally, Vaali returned to Kishkinda and put down Ravana.

Ravana having had a taste of Vaali's prowess was so humbled, he sought friendship with Vaali. Vaali too agreed to the proposal and both of them he-

## PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATES SPECIAL PRIZE

### July 2004 - June 2005

Dear readers (and writers!)

Thank you ever so much for your contributions to Gokulam. We eagerly look forward to your continued participation.

For those of you who have been col-

came good friends. Ravana then stayed in Kishkinda for about a month and then returned to Srilanka.

Perhaps that is the reason why Sri Rama did not seek Vaali's help in rescuing Sita and instead sought Sugriva's help to rescue Sita.

**- V. Mahadevan, Std.VII,**
**P.S.S.S. School, Chennai**

lecting participation certificates, now's the time to count them! If you feel you have received the maximum number of Gokulam certificates please send xerox copies of them along with a letter giving your name, class, school and residential address by July 20, 2005.

A special prize awaits the winner. The scheme continues for this year too. So do keep writing to us.

**- Editor**

# LAUGH A WHILE CONTEST-1

Laugh and make merry! In our new series we adopt a humourous attitude to life! So kids, grab your pens (or pencils) and write a humourous skit / drama / story with a **GENIE** holding centrestage! The word limit is 350 and the last date **24.7.2005.**

**REMEMBER!**

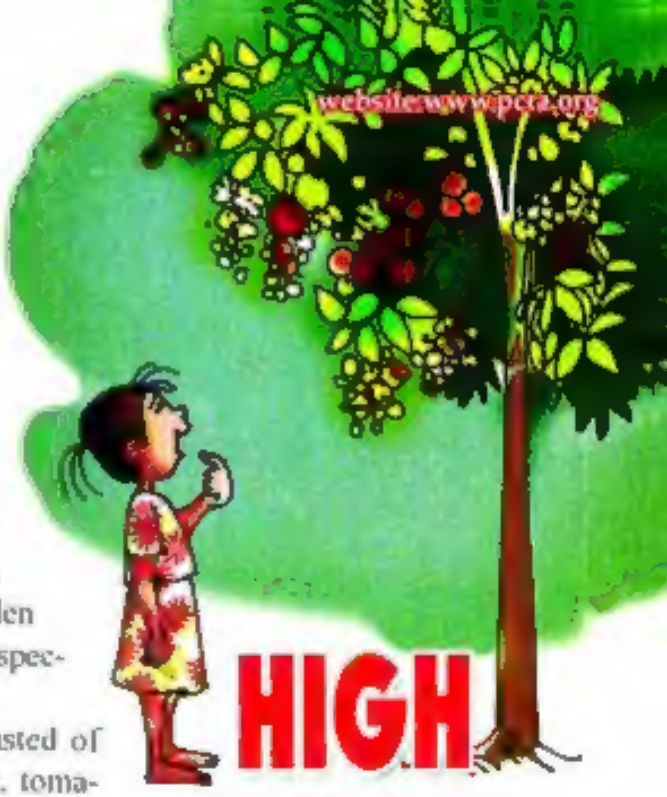
- Strictly for school going children.
- Give your name, school and residential address.
- A declaration that the story is your original creation.
- The prize winning entry will appear in the September 2005 issue of Gokulam.
- Mention 'Laugh a While Contest' on the envelope.
- Editor's decision is final.

*Send in your entries to :* Gokulam, 47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 032.

*Win Rs.* **100**

PCRA Page

website:www.pcra.org



# HIGH YIELDS!

Nithya spent her summer vacation at her uncle's place every year. This year when she walked into the compound, she was astounded at the sight of the wonderful garden. She dropped her bags and rushed to explore the delights of the garden. Last year's tidy yet simple garden had been transformed into a spectacular paradise!

The kitchen garden boasted of plants loaded with brinjals, tomatoes, lady's fingers, bitter gourd etc. Pumpkins of various sizes were sprawled on the ground. The fruit trees were full of fruits.

Roses, hibiscus, jasmine and other pretty flower shrubs and herbs adorned the rest of the garden.

"Uncle, do you possess a magic wand?" asked Nithya of her uncle, who accompanied her.

"Of course not!" he laughed. "We have been using manure, that's all."

"May I know where this magic manure is available and how much it costs?"

"Sure. Everybody can get this manure free of cost! We just dug up a pit in the backyard, dumped our vegetable peels and other bio-degradable garbage there and lo and behold after a couple of months our manure was ready! Zero cost, pollution free, high yields! How's that?"

"Uncle, You're great. I'll follow your technique when I get back home!"

**Bio-degrade the waste and see a lot more greens**

Decompose kitchen waste like vegetable cuttings, fruit peel-offs, tea/coffee powder etc. and use it as fertilizer for your plants.

PETROLEUM CONSERVATION RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

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**TRY SOLVING** 123+456+13-48+534=?
6288+24-13x17=?

Your 8 year old child can do this calculation in 30 seconds

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